



**CHURCHES**  
**Fun and games at  
backpack benefit,** Page 16



**SPORTS**  
**Youth football team  
faces first test,** Page 20



**COMMUNITY**  
**Agawam Shriners  
clowning around,** Page 29

# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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### TOWN ELECTION

## Clark will run against mayor as a write-in

By Michael J. Ballway  
mballway@turley.com

After missing a chance to appear on November ballots opposite Mayor Richard Cohen, local businessman William Clark announced last week that he will mount a write-in campaign for the top job.

"No one ran last [time]," Clark said on Friday. "No one was

running this year. Which shocked me because the lack of infrastructure improvements in town over the last seven years is astronomical."

Clark said the mayor is wasting money on the municipal golf course, the redevelopment of Walnut Street Extension and a proposed new Town Hall while



William Clark



Richard Cohen

shortchanging public works, particularly sidewalks. He says Agawam spends only \$100,000 per year on sidewalks, roughly 4 percent of what's spent in West Springfield, a town similar to Agawam in terms of population and road mileage.

Cohen said the town spends well over \$100,000 on sidewalk construction and re-

pair. Most of the money is spent from other public works accounts, such as funds designated for roadwork, Cohen said.

"We spend millions and millions of dollars maintaining roads and fixing sidewalks every year," he said.

Cohen also answered Clark's contention that the town should

MAYOR | page 8



### Ride to the farm

Saffron Ratkiewicz, 8, is the proud owner of this 1948 Farmall Cub tractor that she brought to Sunday's Agawam tractor show from her home in South Hadley. See more photos and story on page 18. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

### HISTORY

## Echoes of past educators in school names

By Mike Lydick  
aan@turley.com

When Agawam's first full-time superintendent of schools died in a car crash in 1946, the town responded by naming a school after him, the first time this had been done in Agawam. Today, five of the town's seven schools bear names from history – one of whom is still making history.

Agawam's schools, from the first ones built in the 1800s all the way to World War II, had always been

named after their streets or neighborhoods: Suffield Street School, Springfield Street School, Feeding Hills Center School, and the like. It was not until Superintendent Benjamin J. Phelps died that Agawam Center Elementary School – a large brick building built in 1939 – was renamed in his honor.

Phelps was appointed part-time superintendent in 1922, the year the original high school opened. He served simultaneously as superintendent and high school principal



Benjamin J. Phelps was Agawam's first superintendent of schools. When the Agawam Center School was renamed in his memory in 1946, it was the first school in Agawam to be named for a person. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK



SCHOOLS | page 9

### FROM THE PUBLISHER

## Your guide going back to school, back to polls

Dear Reader:

We are pleased to mail the Agawam Advertiser News to every resident for free this week, including the annual "Back to School" section from the Agawam School Department. On page X is a coupon you can mail to our circulation department, or a phone number you can call, to either extend your current subscription or begin a new one.

We resisted the temptation to take to the phones, interrupt your dinner and make our subscription pitch. Instead, our preferred way of continuously growing our readership is to share a couple of copies of the paper with you, ask for you to consider subscribing, and await the returns. We're proud of our work and hope you find it brings you closer to understanding your community. We're hoping for a good response from this campaign because we'll then be able to provide even more value to the local businesses that support us.

There are no plans to rest on our laurels. Our pledge is to continue to work hard at providing even better local news coverage, including everything you need to know about our schools, town government and the town election coming up just a few short months from now. Your suggestions as to how we can do a better job are always welcome. We're a family-owned company with a deep commitment to the towns we serve. We want to meet, and if possible, exceed your expectations.

Please take a moment to consider the service we provide and enjoy the paper. We hope to be arriving at your home every week for years to come. Thanks so much. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sincerely,  
**Patrick Turley**  
Publisher, Turley Publications

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FIRE SERVICE

# Agawam man volunteers to fight wild blazes out West

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Most firefighters in Agawam ride a truck to the fire — perhaps in their own neighborhood.

For the past three summers Chad Roderick, who works with the state Fish and Wildlife office, has hopped on an airplane to fight wildfires clear across the country.

Roderick returned home from his latest fire last Friday. He is part of one of several Eastern United States crews that help control the wildfires that are an annual occurrence in Western states like California, Washington and Wyoming, with their heat, dry plants, lightning and a lack of water to fight the blazes.

Roderick, who trained as a firefighter-EMT with Mass-Wildlife, said he has fought some smaller fires in this region, but he is attracted to the chance to make a difference by fighting the large wildfires of the West. He wanted to help.

“I work a lot in maintenance and habitat restoration,” he said. “With these huge wildfires happening out west, we are losing a lot of different species or others are becoming endangered.” Also, wildfires can eventually spread toward cities and affect homes.

Most recently in Hayfork, Calif., he was part of a 20-person crew that rode a school bus into a bunch of small wildfires. The crew divides into smaller team and attempts to put the fire out using alternate methods.

With a water shortage, Roderick said his group used hand tools and dug trenches down to mineral soil.

“The idea is to cut off the fire’s ability to spread or fuel,”



Chad Roderick and his wife Nicole and their children Peyton, 9, left, and Chloe, 6, right. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

said Roderick. “Then, once the fire is out, we look to cool the area.”

If the fire is not cooled down, it can restart in the dry conditions.

Many of the fires started because of lightning strikes this year, and fires in California have been among the worst in years.

“You see it on the news and it really makes you think,” said Roderick. “I decided I wanted to go help save these habitats and help the people out here.”

The experience has been very rewarding for Roderick, who goes away for a couple of weeks at a time. He has met

numerous firefighters and wildlife volunteers from all over the country.

“They are all great people and it’s a pleasure to work with all of them,” said Roderick, who works with a crew based out of Maine.

When he departs to fight a fire, he does leave his wife, Nicole, and his two children, Peyton, 9, and Chloe, 6, behind. That has gotten a little harder recently.

“The children are old enough to know what is going on and so they are worried about him,” said Nicole Roderick, a teacher at Granville Village School.

In response to that, Chad Roderick has gotten much better about calling home, and checks in almost daily with his family.

Roderick has been fortunate not to be injured while fighting the fires, and says he plans to continue traveling out west. He may be headed back in September with his crew.

His wife believes her husband is doing something very noble, working 16-hour days and putting himself at risk.

“Not a lot of people know about the volunteers that go out there from around here and help,” said Nicole Roderick. “It is really wonderful what he is doing. The girls and I are very proud of him.”

Chad Roderick says crews will start to get thinner with school starting and many of the volunteers returning to college. Help for some areas could be coming from volunteers in Australia and even New Zealand.

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## IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar .....	25
Church .....	25
Youth .....	11
Sports .....	20
Public Safety .....	7
Classifieds .....	26

32 PAGES

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*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

**Houses, condo, lots to be auctioned on Tuesday**

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

The town is holding a big tax-title auction at noon Tuesday, Sept. 1.

There are many properties on the market, though Principal Clerk Karen Drane said many of them are just land the town is hoping will be developed or put back on the tax rolls.

“We only have a few places that have houses or other buildings on the property,” said Drane. “We are hoping to find buyers that will clean up these properties and pay their taxes.”

Among the properties with structures for sale are 115 Regency Park, 337 N. West St., and 414 North St., a 1.3 acre lot. The Regency Park property is part of a large condo community off Meadow Street. The other two properties are in Feeding Hills. Open houses are being scheduled for this properties for Saturday, Aug. 29. As of press time, those open houses were announced by auctioning firm Sullivan & Sullivan to be held from 10 a.m. to noon. However, that is subject to change as some properties may

not be suitable for an open house.

Properties can be seized through tax title if the owner does not pay the property taxes. Drane says the typical procedure is that an owner receives notice of taxes being overdue. Letters on overdue taxes typically go out in the fall. After that, the town goes through a procedure to properly notify owners before the town goes to seize the property. Drane says that can prove to be difficult because the undeveloped properties have no one living there.

Some of the properties being auctioned off are extremely small parcels that may be located in between houses or other pieces of forgotten “landlocked” parcels.

“Sometimes the land is located behind a house and that owner will take control of it,” said Drane. “The land is usually pretty cheap, some of it worth \$15,000 or less. There are a few parcels that may have a minimum bid of just \$300.”

One advantage for any perspective bidder is that all the back taxes on properties are abated once a new owner takes control. The town is simply looking for new owners who will pay the taxes going forward, and in some

cases develop them so it will raise additional tax revenue for the town.

Bidders need to show they are serious, however, Drane said, and are required to register with Sullivan & Sullivan. They must also show up with a bank check for \$5,000 in order to receive a paddle to bid with.

“This is a serious event and we need people who are actually interested in bidding on these properties,” said Drane. Because of the cost to have the auction, Town Treasurer-Collector Laurel Placzek waits until the town seizes a lot of properties by tax title.

In the Sept. 1 auction, which will take place in the Community Room at the Agawam Public Library, there will be more than 50 total parcels of land available.

Among the properties for sale are a seven-plus acre property available at 306 S. Westfield St., six lots on Cosgrove Street, 14 lots on New York Avenue, four lots on Partridge Lane, six lots on School Street, and four lots on White Fox Road.

For more information, visit <http://sullivan-auctioneers.com/calendar-detail/?id=5575>.



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# Opinion

OUR VIEW

## Let's all be road scholars

For all we know, next week will be just as hot and just as sunny as this one. The sun will rise and set at about the same time as this week. But make no mistake about it: The season is changing.

Parents already know it, but the rest of us may need a reminder. School is back in session next week, and that means school buses, bicyclists and walkers are back on the street. That means it's time to review the rules of the road.

You'll be seeing those big yellow buses again, most weekdays. If your commute takes you down main roads in the morning, at noontime or in the early afternoon, chances are you'll drive behind one. When the bus stops, the sign swings out and the red lights flash, you stop. Even if there's room to pass — you stop. Even if you're driving in the opposite direction — you stop. The only exception is if you're on a divided highway and there's a median or barrier between your lanes and the side of the road where the bus is.

Tailgating is a bad idea in general, but a worse idea when following a school bus. After all, it's full of children, has the handling and rear-visibility characteristics of a truck, and is guaranteed to stop every couple minutes. The driver is trained to maintain an appropriate speed for the road and for the young passengers. Riding the bus' bumper will not make the driver go any faster.

With an un-passable bus driving slowly and stopping often, your September commute may take longer than what you've grown accustomed to in the summer. Consider leaving the house five minutes early to avoid getting aggravated.

Not all kids ride the bus. Sure, you've seen children riding their bikes on the street all throughout the summer, but now they'll be doing it early in the morning, perhaps after a late night of studying. Now they'll be walking with their friends and crossing the road during rush hour. Sure, their parents and teachers ought to make sure they know how to keep themselves safe on the road. But you remember how it was when you were a teenager or a grade-schooler — parental advice simply doesn't leap to the top of the mind when there's a favorite television show to be discussed, mid-term examination questions to be dreaded or best friend gossip to be shared.

You, the driver, are the responsible adult who's been licensed by the state to operate a two-ton mass of steel, glass, rubber and plastic. Kids will be kids; to keep us all safe, adults need to be adults.

*What do you think? Email your letter to the editor to [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).*

## Election coverage policies

The Agawam Advertiser News welcomes submitted statements from candidates and letters to the editor from town residents as part of its coverage of the 2015 town elections.

In order to ensure fairness for every candidate, all candidate statements will run in a special section to be printed Sept. 24. No candidate press releases will be printed in any other edition of the newspaper.

All candidates for mayor, City Council and School Committee are invited to submit a statement of up to 500 words, to include biographical and campaign platform details only — no attacks on other candidates, parties or groups, and no publicity for campaign appearances or fundraisers. Please include a headshot photograph for publication. Candidate statements and photographs may be sent to the editor at [mballway@turley.com](mailto:mballway@turley.com), faxed to 413-786-8457 or mailed or hand-delivered to Agawam Advertiser News, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. The submission deadline is noon Wednesday, Sept. 16. For more information, call Managing Editor Michael J. Ballway at 413-786-7747.

In addition to the candidate statements, the newspaper will cover the election through staff-written stories about debates, controversies and political issues, where appropriate.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact John Baskin, 413-786-7747 or [jbaskin@turley.com](mailto:jbaskin@turley.com), about paid advertising in the Agawam Advertiser News.



## Letters to the Editor

### Many to thank for fundraiser success

The trustees of the Captain Charles Leonard House would like to thank everyone who took part in the recent Summer Craft Beer Tasting and BBQ held on the north lawn of the house earlier this month. In keeping with our mission as "Agawam's Community House," the event provided an enjoyable afternoon for more than 125 guests from around the area and at the same time was able to showcase several town businesses.

John and Manon McCarthy, owners of McCarthy's Liquors on Main Street, Agawam, sponsored the event, and generously donated all proceeds toward the ongoing preservation of the 210 year old structure. McCarthy employees Mike and Ryan played an integral part in the planning and success of the event.

Jen Haile at First Stop Café and Ronnie at the Sweet Spot Bakery, both on Walnut Street Extension, Agawam, provided the delicious pulled pork and tasty desserts.

Todd Servis, owner of Ham Hill Tents, provided tents, tables and chairs. The tents were especially welcome during the brief

downpours that afternoon.

Sarat Ford Lincoln and Mayor Richard Cohen donated several items for the raffle.

Mary and Ana Aversa, Captain Charles Leonard House board members, and Captain Leonard House host Josh Kimball cooked, served and cleaned before, during and after the event.

And special thanks to all the brewers and suppliers who gave up their Saturday afternoon to be part of this event.

Everyone who participated in this event aids in the preservation of the Captain Charles Leonard House for use by future generations. We thank you.

Mark your calendars — McCarthy's Liquors will once again host a Craft Beer and Wine Tasting at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Friday evening, Oct. 16. Trustees will hold an Attic and Bake Sale in conjunction with the Agawam Rotary Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 17.

**Board of Trustees  
Captain Charles Leonard House  
Agawam**

### Summer reading program a big success

It has been a wonderful year for the children who participated in the Agawam Children's Library summer reading program, "Every Hero Has A Story." We had almost 1,500 participants in our three different programs. Congratulations to the children, parents and caregivers who read hundreds of our books together. We know the experience will make a positive start to the next school year for everyone.

We would especially like to thank some organizations and individuals for helping us bring special excitement into this year's activities: the Agawam Center Library Association, the Boston Bruins, the Agawam Cultural Council. We are also grateful to Six Flags, the Ice Cream Shoppe, Paint Box Theatre, Chipotle and Friendly's for contributing to our program. We are very fortunate

to have so many generous benefactors.

We were privileged to have several local heroes visit us for "Local Hero Storytime," including Nancy Bobskill, Karen Langevin, Laura Lukas, Pam Murphy (with Blaze and Pumper), Jody Seldomridge, the Family Program Office, Massachusetts Army National Guard, and Master Sergeant Christopher Cekovsky. Thank you to all the heroes for generously donating your time and energy to help us to learn that not all heroes wear capes.

We hope that everyone has a successful start to the new school year and we look forward to seeing our friends and supporters in the children's library.

**Susan Peoples and Rose Dupre  
Agawam Public Library**

### A successful shuffle

It has been another great year of shuffleboard players gathering at St. John's courts every Tuesday morning. We would like to thank volunteers Caroline and Dick Bassett for getting everything ready for the crew to play, and Marilyn, who filled in while they were on vacation.

A huge thank you to Norman Thibault,

who cleared off the courts faithfully every week. We couldn't have done it without you. Hats off to our great volunteers and the excellent players who got to enjoy them.

See you next May.

**Agawam Senior Center  
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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).



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YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

The Class of '55, part 2

Dora Papacini graduated from AHS in 1955 and later married her sweetheart, Richard For- ni, a Tech High graduate. They had an apartment in Springfield until their new home, built by the Oliver Brothers, was ready on Giffin Place. Dora is still there but now she has four daughters (Doreen, Sharon, Dina and Linda), eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She really enjoyed the '55's 60th reunion this year.



Walt Willard

Beverly Marieb '55 went to Louisiana right after graduation to visit her mom's family. When she came back, she entered the St. Francis School of Nursing in Hartford. Three years later she was an R.N. She served as a nurse for the next 45 years and had three daughters along the way. Girls are pretty common in the family, as all of her seven grandchildren are girls, too. Beverly lives in Fiskdale, which I had never learned the whereabouts of. (Mrs. Nardi would not like that last sentence.) Beverly explained to me that Fiskdale is part of Sturbridge.

Did you know there were seven Marieb children on Moorland Street? Norman, Beverly, Joyce, Kathy, Mike, Holly and Valerie. They probably all took their turn working at the family market on the corner of Letendre Avenue and Springfield Street. The market is still there. A different color,

though, and more like a convenience store. How many Brownies have gone there since 1955? Beverly had a wonderful time at the reunion and said her classmates were friendlier than ever.

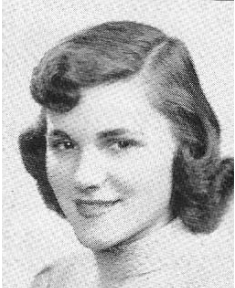
The library copy of Manning's Springfield Suburban Directory should be back from rebinding by now. There is a great section called Agawam Classified

Business Directory, which lists the town businesses by category. "Confectionery and Ice Cream" in town could be obtained at the Carol Jane Shoppe at 644 Main St., at Jasmin's Pharmacy at 55 Springfield St. (near the Food Mart), at Ronnie's (Mrs. Trevallion) at 711 Main St., at the Tastie Freez at 307 Walnut St. or from Mary Cimaroli at 74 Maple St. How many Brownies got ice cream from those great stores? Surely, I bought Table Talk pies for a nickel from Mrs. Trevallion. That was a tough decision back then — a blueberry pie or a pack of baseball cards. Today the pies are \$1 and the cards are over \$2. Maybe the decision is easier now.

Another category in the same Manning's section is "Schools." You can find the names of all the teachers in each school. For example, the Springfield Street School (or Foalin



Beverly Marieb



Dora Papacini

M. Peirce School) was led by principal Thelma Meadon. Her teachers were Carol Knight, Eloise Clark, Ada Bready, Marguerite Dacey, Vincent Valentine, Joan Winton, Margaret Cruise, Beverly Lukasiewicz, Corinne Arsenault, Eileen Courtney, John Erickson, Thomas Harrington, Dorothy Harris, Nancy Hastings and Irene Walinski.

Since this list is 80 years old and they were probably all college grads, any of them still alive should be over 80. Mrs. Clark turned 94 back in April. Maybe she can explain why such a small school had so many teachers. I'll call her and let you know the answer.

Victor Ramah turned 98 on Aug. 23. I heard his great-grandson down in New Jersey is a sharp, handsome boy. His name? What else! Walter Ramah.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

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DEATH NOTICES

**Fournier, Chentele A.**  
Died Aug. 12, 2015  
Funeral Aug. 30, 2015  
Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

**Noftall, Terrill A.**  
Died Aug. 20, 2015  
Private burial  
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home  
Agawam

**Racicot, Daniel E.**  
Died Aug. 14, 2015  
Private services  
Agawam Curran-Jones Family Funeral Home

**Strawn, Susanah**  
Died Aug. 17, 2015  
Private services  
Colonial Forastiere Family Funeral Home  
Agawam

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St. Pat Committee's new season begins next month

The Agawam St. Patrick Committee, which took first place in this year's Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade for the Irish theme float, is celebrating its 15-year anniversary. The public is invited to view the

float trophy at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

A new season will begin in September. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30

p.m. at the St. John the Evangelist Rectory, 833 Main St., Agawam.

For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at [rosemarysandlin@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarysandlin@gmail.com).

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Deacon Dave Przybylowski speaks about repentance at Faith on Fire.



The Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, bishop of Springfield, addresses Faith on Fire participants on Friday.



The Rev. Henry Dorsch carries the host, which Catholics believe to be the body of Jesus Christ, in the Eucharistic procession at Faith on Fire on Friday night. Walking with him at left is Deacon Dave Przybylowski. Both are from Our Lady of the Lake Church in Southwick. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

# Witnesses share stories of healing at Catholic rally

By Michael J. Ballway  
mballway@turley.com

It's never too late to be healed, two local women told participants in Faith on Fire last week.

Cecile Fragoso, a Feeding Hills resident and parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Church on Main St, said her prayers at a Catholic retreat ended the pain she'd felt from crippling arthritis for 22 years, a condition that had led her to have both knees replaced.

First she saw a vision of a pain-free life during Mass. Then she had some fellow participants in the retreat pray for her and lay their hands on her.

"At the end of my time with the prayer team, it became obvious to me that my symptoms were gone," she said.

She shared her story Friday night in front of hundreds at the annual Catholic rally held on the fields at Sacred Heart Church on Springfield Street. The two-night event also featured music from two local youth groups, the San Damiano Group led by Joe Dzioc from St. Stanislaus Basilica in Chicopee, and the Psalm 33 Music Ministry led by Tom Ruccio of Our Lady of the Blessed

Sacrament in Westfield; talks by church leaders such as Springfield Bishop Mitchell Rozanski; the sacrament of reconciliation, also known as confession; an opportunity to pray before a procession of the Eucharist; and the laying-on of hands for healing through faith.

For Mayra Prats of Southwick, it was decades after her abusive and alcoholic father was removed from her life, after she had two children as a teen mother, that she started attending Mass at St. Mary's in Westfield. A fellow parishioner invited her to a retreat, and at first she fought it — "tooth and nail."

But "that night, on my knees, I begged for forgiveness," she recalled. "I remember asking God to cleanse this old heart. Cleanse me of my past. I was surrounded by angels. ... The Holy Spirit was at work. God loved me, no matter what I did in the past."

Sacred Heart pastoral minister Jean Raczowski, who organized the event, said she did not take a count of how many attended, but she knows that volunteers handed out more than 900 information bags over the two nights. Attendance was better on Thursday than on Friday, she said, possibly because of an early forecast for rain on Friday.



Faith on Fire participants listen to music by Chicopee and Westfield youth groups on the field behind Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 330 calls for service from Aug. 17 to Aug. 23. The department made four arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

Cole Criollos, 19, of 55 Cliff St., Tiverton, R.I., was arrested on a charge of trespassing.

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Delilah Maldonado, 35, of 95 N. Westfield St., Apt. 11, Agawam, was arrested on two default warrants for failure to appear.

Thursday, Aug. 20

Derek Besaw, 40, of 23 Suffield St., Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Friday, Aug. 21

Kennedy F. Harris, 51, of 309 Wilbraham Road, Apt. 3, Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear, and charges of operating a motor vehicle with license revoked as HTQ, and possession of open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 70 EMS calls for Aug. 17 to Aug. 24, and the following emergency response calls.

On Aug. 17 at midnight, the department responded to Cooper Street for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On Aug. 19 at 7:44 a.m., the department responded to Stony Hills Road for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On Aug. 19 at 9:28 a.m., the department responded to East Castle Hills Road for lockout.

On Aug. 21 at 8:32 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for overheated motor.

On Aug. 22 at 10:20 a.m., the department responded to Ottawa Street for good intent call, other.

Beautification efforts get \$8K from CPA

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Thanks to funding from the Community Preservation Act, the Agawam Beautification Committee will be able to restore and beautify several locations throughout town.

The Agawam City Council recently approved \$8,000 from the CPA general unreserved fund. The money will be used toward 10 different properties owned by the town of Agawam.

Violet Baldwin, a member of the Planning Board, CPA Committee, and the chairman of the Beautification Committee, said her committee was very pleased the City Council approved the funds, and says the Beautification Committee will make sure the money is used wisely and spread as far as possible.

“The town has so many beautiful spots,” said Baldwin. “It is the job of our committee to try and keep it that way. We feel like we are meeting that goal, but we need to keep working on it.”

Baldwin says the Beautification Committee receives a very limited budget, and it is used to help maintain many of the spots in town that it has “adopted.”

However, there are some areas of town-owned land that still need to be addressed or that have had plants die.

“These are the areas we are looking to use the CPA funds to help restore,” said Baldwin. “Some of these places are traveled frequently and we want to keep them looking nice.”

Among the areas to be addressed are the Agawam Department of Public Works Facility, Pynchon Point, Agawam Town Hall and traffic islands on Suffield and Main streets.

There is also stone work to be done at the Anne Sullivan Memorial, Baldwin says.

She says there are flower beds at the Agawam DPW that need more attention,



Landscaping by Town Hall is one of the sites in town that the Beautification Committee has “adopted.”

and the Beautification Committee plans to address it.

“The DPW building has a lot of traffic that comes through it and is on a hill,” said Baldwin. “We think people deserve to see something nice.”

Islands along Main Street and Suffield Street have suffered through the difficult winter. They were installed as part of state roadwork projects and left to the town of Agawam to maintain.

“The state did a beautiful job establishing the islands on Main Street when it worked on the road the past couple of years,” said Baldwin. “But there was no plan established for maintenance.”

Because there is very little room between the islands and the actual street, Baldwin said the flower plantings that were made by the state were adversely affected

by snowplows and salt.

“The taxpayers deserve to continue to see nice-looking flowers on those islands and we want to restore them,” said Baldwin.

Other areas to be addressed over time are Helen’s Garden, McGrath Park, Garden Street, the bike path along River Road, and an island on Springfield Street near Sacred Heart Church.

Councilor Cecelia Calabrese said the council’s Community Relations Subcommittee recommended the spending.

“We were really impressed with the fact that the committee is really addressing several specific areas of need,” said Calabrese.

Baldwin says the committee will be very conscious of the taxpayers’ money and will stretch it out as long and as far as possible.

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Per: MLSPIN In Agawam 7/28/2014 - 7/28/2015

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MAYOR ■ from page 1

build a brand-new high school, with state reimbursement, rather than footing the full cost of an auditorium renovation and athletic facilities project that may have to be torn up if the school is replaced someday in the future. The town has tried three times to get state approval for a new high school, said Cohen, and it's been denied each time. The town asked for state funding of a renovation, and was denied then, too, he said.

"The structure and condition of our [high] school is excellent," said Cohen. "Is it new? No. Does it do what its supposed to do? Yes."

Both the mayor and the challenger paint themselves as the fiscally responsible one. Clark says Cohen's plans for Walnut Street Extension — an inviting streetscape, common parking, wide sidewalks, a "pocket park" and a gateway arch to foster a "walkable downtown district" — are an unnecessary waste of funds. It's already the only walkable business district in Agawam, says Clark, who owns a business there, and a

large construction project would only hurt the retailers who are there now.

Cohen says Clark's focus on comparing infrastructure spending between Agawam and West Springfield ignores the fact that West Side's town budget is \$5 million higher than Agawam's — and property taxes there are higher, to match.

"I'm not going to tell people what they want to hear and make promises that can't be kept," said Cohen. "The job is not a political one, of saying what people will want to hear; it's telling them the truth while being mindful of their tax dollars. And that's what I'm going to continue to do."

Clark points to the town's capital improvement plan, which calls for the construction of a new Town Hall, at an estimated cost of \$7 million, in 2020, something he says "makes no sense." Cohen says Clark is misinterpreting the plan: It's a predicted "wish list" required by the state; it's not a concrete schedule, and the Town Hall is "not going to happen."

Clark is an Agawam native, having attended public schools from Robinson Park to AHS, later earning a bachelor's degree

from the University of Arizona and business degree from Bentley College in the 1990s. He moved back to Agawam in 2003 to take care of his father, and opened Second Wind Yoga on Walnut Street Extension in March 2011.

Like Clark, Cohen made his first bid for mayor without having held any previous political office. Cohen had been a schoolteacher and a professor at Springfield Technical Community College; he said his work in administration at STCC, where he was assistant to the dean of continuing education and ran associate's degree program at the Hampden County Correctional Center, among other duties, prepared him for the job.

Clark acknowledged that as a write-in candidate, he faces an uphill battle against a long-time incumbent.

To appear on the ballot, candidates must submit nomination papers with 100 verifiable signatures of registered Agawam voters. Clark did take out nomination papers for the mayor's race, and returned them on Aug. 18, the deadline for nominations. His papers had 103 signatures, but

several of the signatures were illegible or did not match anyone on the current voter list, according to the town clerk's office. In the end, only 92 of Clark's signatures were certified, so he did not qualify to appear on the ballot.

Cohen ran unopposed in 2013 after another challenger fell short of the signature requirement, albeit for a different reason. Would-be candidate Walter Meissner III was disqualified from the ballot after the town clerk voiced a suspicion that 25 of his signatures — out of a total of 104 — had been forged. The town obtained affidavits from eight people on the nomination who said they did not sign it.

The last time Cohen faced a challenger, in 2011, he defeated former state Rep. Rosemary Sandlin, 4,905 to 3,180, to win his sixth term as mayor. The last time he lost an election was 2007, when he was narrowly defeated for re-election by Susan Dawson. Cohen has served as mayor continuously since 2009. Mayoral terms are for two years.

Races set for council, school board

In addition to mayor, Agawam voters will go to the polls Nov. 3 to choose 11 city councilors, from 17 candidates, and six School Committee members out of seven candidates.

Because there were fewer than twice as many candidates as seats available in each race, there will not be a preliminary election.

The council ballot will include challengers Robert Alves, Michele Calvanese, Samuel DiSanti Jr., Robert Magovern, Richard Theroux and Corinne Wingard, and all 11 incumbents: George Bitzas, Cecilia Calabrese, Paul Cavallo, James Cichetti, Christopher Johnson, Gina Letellier, Joseph Mineo, Dennis Perry, Donald Rheault, Robert Rossi and Anthony Suffriti.

Two would-be challengers who pulled nomination papers, John Cesan and David Morin, did not return their papers before the deadline on Aug. 18.

The School Committee ballot will include challenger Brian Burbank and all six incumbents, Anthony Bonavita, Roberta Doering, Diane Juzba, Carmino Mineo, Shelley Borgatti-Reed and Wendy Rua.

The terms for mayor, city councilor and School Committee are all two years.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, will be the last day for Agawam residents who are not yet registered to register to vote in time for the election. The town clerk's office will be open that day from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

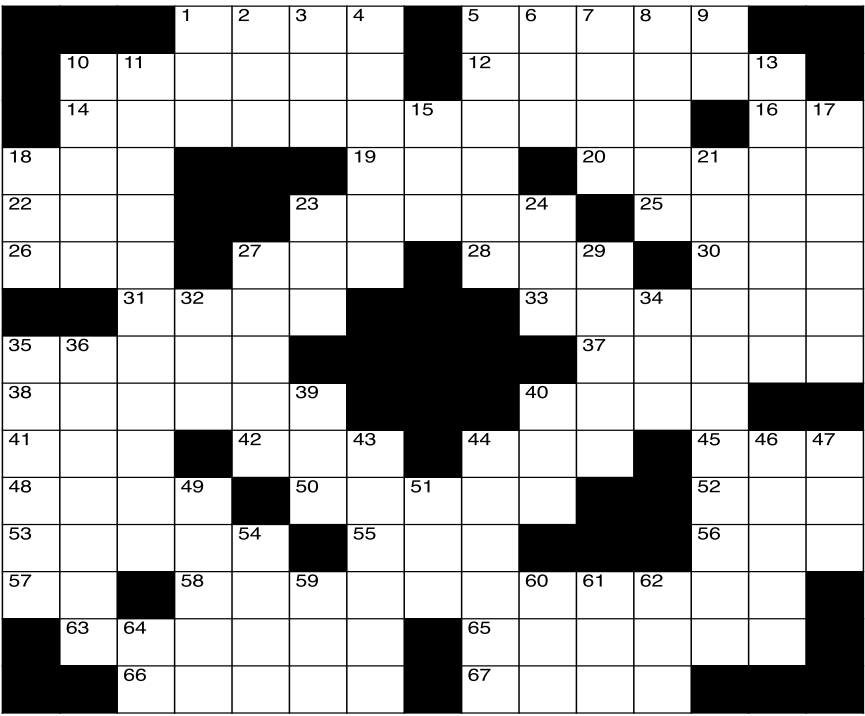
Chamber hosting breakfast, lunch, evening in Sept.

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host three business and networking events in September.

**Wicked Wednesday:** Wednesday, Sept. 2, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Cutting Edge Salon, Feeding Hills. Wicked Wednesdays are monthly social events, hosted by various businesses and restaurants. These events bring members and non-members together to social network in a laid-back atmosphere. For more information and for tickets to this event, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

**Networking Lunch:** Wednesday, Sept. 17, noon to 1:30 p.m. at Crestview Country Club, Agawam. Chamber members and guests of members can enjoy a sit-down lunch while networking with fellow chamber members. Each attendee will get a chance to offer a brief sales pitch. The only cost to attend is the cost of lunch — attendees will order off the menu and pay separately. Lunches must be paid on site, not invoiced. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

**Breakfast Seminar:** Thursday, Sept. 24, 7-9 a.m. at Oakridge Country Club, Feeding Hills. Breakfast tickets are available and are \$25 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. For more information and for tickets to this event, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.



- CLUES ACROSS**

  - 1. Encase a gift
  - 5. Tonsillitis bacteria
  - 10. Pre-1972 British trial session
  - 12. Family Uppidae
  - 14. Five & dime pioneer
  - 16. Public prosecutor
  - 18. Actress Farrow
  - 19. Household god (Roman)
  - 20. Indian dresses
  - 22. Misjudge
  - 23. Actress Zellweger
  - 25. Remove flour lumps
  - 26. Obtain
  - 27. Modeled
  - 28. Juan, Francisco or Antonio
  - 30. Indian territory, Daman and \_\_\_\_
  - 31. Owl sound
  - 33. A slab of stone or wood
  - 35. Of the largest continent
- 37. Napped leather
  - 38. Spoke wildly
  - 40. Comically strange
  - 41. Fed
  - 42. Baglike structure in a plant or animal
  - 44. Snakelike fish
  - 45. Bishop's official seat
  - 48. Bash \_\_\_\_ Falls, N.Y.
  - 50. Bay Area Eating Disorders Assoc.
  - 52. Driver compartment
  - 53. Emitted coherent radiation
  - 55. Radioactivity unit
  - 56. Former CIA
  - 57. And (Latin)
  - 58. Disintegrate
  - 63. "Desperado" band
  - 65. Makes into law
  - 66. Attentiveness
  - 67. Skillful hand movement
- CLUES DOWN**

  - 1. Point midway between W and SW
  - 2. 2011 animated macaw movie
  - 3. A word element meaning nitrogen
  - 4. Shot
  - 5. Coasts
  - 6. Hill (Celtic)
  - 7. Decays
  - 8. Hebrew dry measure
  - 9. Venice river
  - 10. Ablaze
  - 11. Duskiness
  - 13. Enlightened
  - 15. Unnaturally pale
  - 17. Acutely insightful and wise
  - 18. "French Kiss" actress Ryan
  - 21. "Alien" director
  - 23. Long-tailed rodent
  - 24. A way to ingest
  - 27. Sound units
  - 29. Relating to the nose
- 32. Cereal grass
  - 34. Sticky or hot-cross
  - 35. Productive land
  - 36. Englut
  - 39. Apply with short strokes
  - 40. Indian corn genus
  - 43. Stroke
  - 44. Flowed in contrary directions
  - 46. Comforts
  - 47. Point that is one point S of due E
  - 49. Shrub fence
  - 51. Organ of balance
  - 54. Proofreading symbol
  - 59. CNN's founder
  - 60. Smallest whole number
  - 61. Airforce of Gr. Britain
  - 62. A subdivision of a play
  - 64. Exclamation of surprise

Answers on page 30

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SCHOOLS ■ from page 1

for three years until becoming a full-time superintendent.

During his tenure, school enrollment began increasing. In 1938, with the town recovering from the Great Depression, construction began on a new, modern schoolhouse on Main Street near School Street. To make way for the new Agawam Center School, which still stands today as Phelps School, a building on the site that had served as the town hall was razed.

Granger, Clark and RPS

The same year Phelps died, the town lost another prominent school leader. Clifford M. Granger had been chairman of the School Committee and was a long-time committee member at the time of his death. In January 1950, when a new elementary school opened in Feeding Hills Center, it was named after Granger.

Granger School was built near the corner of Springfield Street and South Westfield Street. It replaced a two-story brick building and an adjacent one-story wood building that housed a primary school. The top floor of the brick building, built in 1874, had served as a meeting hall for Feeding Hills residents.

The need to build more new schools continued into the 1950s. In 1957, a new elementary school was constructed on Oxford Road in the southeastern part of town, near the Connecticut border. It was originally called the South Street School after the nearest main street.

In the 1970s, South Street School was renamed the James Clark School to honor the man who had served as school superintendent from 1954 until his retirement in 1971.

“Clark was a fresh voice with a fresh approach,” recalled Robert Magovern, a former city councilor who grew up in Agawam and was a student in the schools when Clark was superintendent. “He was from out of town, but he was well-liked and respected by teachers, students, and parents. He did a very good job as superintendent.”

In September 1959, Robinson Park School opened on Begley Street, which is just off Maple Street near where it ends at Springfield and North streets, an area known as O’Brien’s Corner. The rear of the school’s property abuts Robinson State Park, which is how the school got its name. John C. Robinson was a businessman and civic leader in Agawam who donated the more than 1,000 acres that make up the park in 1934, after failing to develop it himself as an industrial site. Robinson died in 1944.

Oldest school, newest name

Neither the current high school, opened in 1955, nor the current junior high school, opened in 1972, are named for any Agawam individual. But the former high school and



The original 1922 Agawam High School — later a junior high school, now a middle school — was renamed for Roberta G. Doering in 2010 to commemorate her 40th consecutive year on the School Committee. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

former junior high school — also Agawam’s oldest school still housing classrooms — is the most recent school to be renamed in tribute to a school official.

This Main Street school near the current Town Hall served as the original high school for more than 30 years after its dedication in December 1922. When the new high school on Cooper Street was built, the old high school building was used as a junior high for 17 years. Then, after the current junior high school opened on Springfield Street, it became the Agawam Middle School.

Today, the building is still a middle school, but since September 2010 it has been known as Roberta G. Doering School. The school was renamed in honor of Doering to commemorate her 40th consecutive year as a member of the School Committee. Doering continues to serve on the School Committee, which meets in the auditorium of the school named to honor her.

Two former elementary schools that were converted to other uses by the town were named for principals at those schools. The Faolin Peirce School opened in 1917 as a four-room school and was called the Springfield Street School. After the school was closed it was converted into Agawam’s current police headquarters in the 1980s.

The Maple Street School in North Agawam opened as a four-room school in 1904, but was destroyed when it was struck by lightning. It was rebuilt and was later named the Kathryn Danahy School. Danahy worked in Agawam schools from 1899 until her retirement in 1947. When the school closed in the 1980s, it was renovated for its current use, senior citizen



Clifford M. Granger was a longtime School Committee member who died in 1946. In January 1950, when a new elementary school opened in Feeding Hills Center, it was named after Granger. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Robinson Park School, opened in 1959, is named for the nearby state park — itself named for John C. Robinson, who donated the land on which the park sits. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



South Street School, which opened in 1957, was renamed following the 1971 retirement of Superintendent of Schools James Clark, who had overseen its construction. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Genealogy Society to meet Sept. 2

The Western Massachusetts Genealogy Society will hold its first meeting of the year Wednesday, Sept. 2, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The society meets on the first Wednesday of every month from 6 to 8 p.m. and also holds a computer research workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. on the third and fourth Thursdays of the month.

The society will welcome genealogist Pauline Cusson for the first meeting of the

year. Cusson, an expert on French genealogy research, is from New Hampshire and will share her expertise on how to search for French ancestors.

All genealogy researchers, beginners to experts, are welcome. Membership is \$25 a year, which covers the monthly meetings and the computer research workshops. The cost for the computer research workshop only is \$10 a year.

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# Legals

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P1506EA  
Estate of:**

**Heather E Gingras  
Date of Death: 05/03/2015  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Richard C Gingras** of Agawam MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Richard C Gingras** of Agawam MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/10/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit

of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 13, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
8/27/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD15P1519PM**

**In the matter of:  
Iris Sinclair  
Of: Agawam, MA  
RESPONDENT  
(Person to be Protected/  
Minor)**

**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Heritage Hall South** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Iris Sinclair** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan J Davey** of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 09/11/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a

lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 14, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
8/27/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD15P1517PM**

**In the matter of:  
Ronald Doiron  
Of: Agawam, MA  
RESPONDENT  
(Person to be Protected/  
Minor)**

**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405**  
To the named Respondent

and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Heritage Hall South** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Ronald Doiron** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan J Davey** of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 09/11/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in

this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 14, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
8/27/15

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

## HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to [klanier@turley.com](mailto:klanier@turley.com). Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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# Youth

## AHS launches new college, career planning website

The counselors at Agawam High School have announced the implementation of Family Connection, a comprehensive website that can be used to plan for college and a career. Family Connection is linked with Naviance, a service that will be used in the AHS guidance office to track and analyze data about college and career plans, so it provides up-to-date information that is specific to each school.

Family Connection will allow users to:

- Get involved in the planning and advising process — build a resume, complete online surveys, and manage timelines and deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers

- Research colleges — compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from AHS for students who have applied and been admitted in the past

- Research careers — research hundreds of careers and career clusters, and take career assessments

- Create plans for the future — create goals and to-dos, and complete tasks assigned by the school to better prepare for your future college and career goals

Family Connection will also let the counselors share information with students about upcoming meetings and events, local scholarship opportunities, and other resources for college and career information. The site can also be used to stay in communication with the counseling office, which will be providing students with a personal access code and instructions for accessing Family Connection that can be used to create a Family Connection account.

This program will begin this fall with the seniors and will work through the student body throughout the year with the goal of full enrollment by June 2016.

## Kindergarten socials next Thursday

The first day of kindergarten can be filled with joy and reservation. The Agawam Family and Community Program will host free kindergarten socials on Thursday, Sept. 3, to help children prepare for their big day.

Socials will be held at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for Clifford Granger School and Robinson Park School students, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. for James Clark School and Benjamin Phelps School students. Parents and guardians are invited to bring students for a fun story time and a chance to make some new friends. Each student will leave with a new book courtesy of the Agawam Family and Community Program. This event is offered to Agawam students entering kindergarten in September.

All event information is available at [www.agawampublicschools.org](http://www.agawampublicschools.org) under "Special Interests."

## Students back in school next week

Students in grades 1-12 in Agawam will return to classes Thursday, Sept. 3, with the last day of school projected to be between June 16 and 23, 2016.

Kindergarten and preschool orientation will be held Sept. 8 and 9, with regular sessions beginning Sept. 10.

School holidays for 2015-16 include Labor Day, Sept. 7; Columbus Day, Oct. 12; Election Day, Nov. 3; Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving Break, Nov. 26-27 (half-day Nov. 25); Christmas Break, Dec. 24 to Jan. 1 (half-day Dec. 23); Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 18; Presidents Day and Winter Vacation, Feb. 15-19; Good Friday, March 25; Patriots Day and Spring Vacation, April 18-22; and Memorial Day, May 30.

In addition to the days before Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, half-days will be held Oct. 6, Dec. 3 and March

2. The last day of school will also be a half-day.

Back-to-School nights are scheduled for the Early Childhood Center, Oct. 14; elementary schools, Sept. 10; Doering School, Sept. 9; junior high school, Sept. 17; and high school, Sept. 16.

The last day of school is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016. Up to five school days are built into the calendar to make up for cancellations; if all five of these days are needed, the last day of classes will be Thursday, June 23.

Teachers will return Tuesday, Sept. 1, for two days of professional development and preparation time.

For more information about the upcoming school year, see the School Department's annual back-to-school special section in this week's newspaper.

## Summer graduates



The Agawam High School summer graduation ceremony for the Class of 2015 was held Wednesday, Aug. 19. Among those in attendance were, back row, far left, Timothy Karetka, summer school coordinator; far right, Alan Cohen, guidance counselor (retired); William Sapelli, superintendent of schools; and Susan Feyre, assistant principal. Front row, from left, Thomas Schnepf, assistant principal; Shawn Tatrow, adult education and night school coordinator; Steven Lemanski, principal; Mayor Richard Cohen; and Shelley Reed, School Committee member. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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## Mayor: Park must remain open for all; town will address complaints

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Though initial reviews of the new School Street Park were overwhelmingly positive, Mayor Richard Cohen acknowledged last week that he has received some critiques as the summer went on.

He said he dealt immediately with complaints to his office and on Facebook about visitors smoking in the park.

"We obviously do not want anyone smoking at the park and I take those complaints very seriously," said Cohen. "That park should be enjoyed by everyone and so I hired an additional supervisor and increased the supervisors' hours to help monitor that."

During the past few weeks, there have also been complaints online about out-of-town visitors using the park. Some have suggested that non-residents be charged admission. Cohen said that is not possible, as the park was funded by the Community Preservation Act.

"CPA funds built much of that park," said Cohen. "Much of the CPA money comes from a match by the state. The rules state that the park must be open to all. ... I cannot prevent people from outside of Agawam from coming and using the park." Cohen also said prior to Agawam taking over the land, it actually belonged to Hampden County. It became town land after the county form of government was abolished. He added that visitors from other towns

to the park are a good thing. Those visitors come through the town and also visit town businesses and shops. The park provides the town with good exposure.

Cohen said he will remain vigilant to make sure the park, which has been very active since it opened this spring, remains in excellent condition.

"Our police officers and our recreation director, Chris Sparks, are all frequently visiting the park," said Cohen. "The police have an excellent presence and it is part of their regular patrol every day. The park is new and we will increase supervision for some time."

The second phase of the park opened during the spring, but attendance increased significantly on July 1, when the Summer-Fest concert series began. The spray park has been a big hit, open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

New amenities also include a pavilion, which is monitored by video surveillance. There are also canopied picnic tables, a new playground, and the band shell and stage that is utilized for concerts and shows.

The first phase of the park, which opened several years ago, has a playground, bathrooms, and several playing fields for soccer, baseball and softball.

Cohen says any complaints about the park can be reported and he will make sure that they are addressed as soon as possible. He also encourages visitors to inform supervisors of any issues they run into while they are at the park.

## 'Branson,' Amish country trips planned

St. John's Travelers recently announced the following 2016 trips. For reservations, call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

March 21-24: Bus trip to Ocean City, Md., for "Branson at the Beach." The four-day package includes round-trip motor coach, three nights at an oceanfront hotel, three breakfasts, three dinners, and five shows direct from Branson in the Performing Arts Center with Broadway-style seating. The cost is \$798 per person, double occupancy; \$778 per person, triple occupancy; and \$998, single occupancy. It includes baggage handling, taxes and driver's gratuity. A \$50 deposit is required. The bus will depart at 7 a.m. from St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam.

June 14-16: Motor coach trip to Lancaster, Pa., for a showing of "Sampson and

Delilah." The package includes round-trip motor coach, two nights at the Amish View Inn, two buffet breakfasts at the inn, and Dutch Apple dinner theater for a showing of "Million Dollar Quarter." It also includes reserved seats for "Sampson" at the Sight & Sound Theatre, a family-style dinner in a real Amish home, a professional Amish country tour, visits to Eli Roadside Root Beer stand, Kitchen Kettle Village farmers market, Shady Maple shops and restaurant, baggage handling, taxes and driver's gratuity. The cost is \$448 per person, double occupancy; \$428 per person, triple occupancy; \$598, single occupancy. A \$50 deposit is required with the balance due by May 9. The bus will depart at 7:30 a.m. from St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam.

## Cultural Council grant applications available

With money available to award through grants, the Agawam Cultural Council is seeking proposals from local community-oriented arts, humanities and science programs in need of funding. The Agawam Cultural Council has set Thursday, Oct. 15, as the postmark deadline for organizations, schools and individuals to apply for grants that support or provide cultural activities for the Agawam community.

According to ACC spokesperson Bob Kadis, these grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Agawam, including exhibits, festivals, short-term artist residencies or performances in schools, workshops and lectures. The ACC also encourages funding requests from schools and youth groups to cover ticket and transportation costs for field trips for school-age children.

For more information, ACC local guidelines and more information can be found at [www.mass-culture.org/Agawam](http://www.mass-culture.org/Agawam) by clicking on the "Local Guidelines" tab. The same information about the grants program can also be found at [agawamcc.org](http://agawamcc.org).

The fiscal 2016 allocation is not known at this time, but will be on the website as

soon as it is known. The fiscal 2015 allocation was \$10,450.

Information about grants and the application process, as well as application forms in Word and PDF formats, can be downloaded from [www.agawamcc.org](http://www.agawamcc.org) or [www.massculturalcouncil.org/applications/lccapp.asp](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org/applications/lccapp.asp).

Grant requests should be mailed to Agawam Cultural Council, Town Hall, 36 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001, Attn: Grants. The postmark deadline for grant applications is Oct. 15. For more information about the grant program, email Bob Kadis at [r.kadis@comcast.net](mailto:r.kadis@comcast.net) or call 413-789-4814.

The local cultural council program, of which the Agawam Cultural Council is a part, is a grant program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. The Massachusetts Cultural Council provides allocations to each of the state's 351 cities and towns to support cultural activities. These funds are then dispersed through a strict grant process conducted by the all-volunteer network of 329 local cultural councils. This is the largest program of its kind in the United States.

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The cast of "The Snoop Troop Agency" poses for a photo to end the weeklong theatre camp at the Red Door Theatre. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## 'Giant Peach' up next at Red Door theatre

The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, closed its summer series with "The Snoop Troop Agency," an original detective mystery comedy by Southwick's Margie Secora. Coming up next is "James & the Giant Peach."

The story by Roald Dahl tells of the adventures of a young boy

who sets off on his journey in a giant magical peach with a motley crew of insects aboard. There are surprises galore for the audience in this family-fun fantasy.

Applications for the fall theater camp for young people 8-15 years old are online at [www.reddoortheatre.com](http://www.reddoortheatre.com). The camp dates are

Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 15 to Oct. 22. Show dates are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 23 and 24, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25.

For more information on the camp and the production, visit [reddoortheatre.com](http://reddoortheatre.com) or call 413-789-2026.

## Family playgroup set to begin

The Agawam Congregational Church Family Playgroup will begin Thursday, Sept. 17. The public is invited to attend for crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. Playgroup is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and takes place at the church, 745 Main St. The program schedule follows the Agawam public school calendar.

For more information, email [janetbrown@agawam-cong.com](mailto:janetbrown@agawam-cong.com) or call the office at 413-786-7111.

## Vendor space available for fair

St. John the Evangelist Church will host a tag sale and craft fair in the parish center, 830 Main St., Agawam, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12. The day's events will also include a bake sale. Spaces are available at a cost of \$20. For more information, call Jackie at 860-212-9950.

## Lioness to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam Lioness Club will host a trip to Mohegan Sun on Sunday, Sept. 13. Anyone interested in going is asked to be at the Agawam High School parking lot at noon. The bus will depart at 12:30 p.m., or sooner if everyone is present. The bus will arrive back at AHS at 8:30 p.m.

The cost is \$33 per person, which includes bus driver's tip, a \$15 food voucher and a \$15 free bet voucher. Proceeds from this trip will be used for the various charities the Agawam Lioness Club supports. The public is invited. Early reservations are encouraged, as seats are limited. For reservations, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.



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# Participants sought for pie contest, tag and bake sale

The Agawam Historical Association will hold its fourth annual apple pie contest in connection with a tag sale and bake sale event at the Thomas Smith House, 251 N. West St., Feeding Hills, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Vendors and crafters are welcome. Tag sale space is \$20 and must be reserved in advance. To make a reservation, contact Marilyn at 413-786-1452 or email [AgawamHistoricalAssoc@gmail.com](mailto:AgawamHistoricalAssoc@gmail.com). All reservations must be paid in advance to the Agawam Historical Association, P.O. Box 552, Agawam, MA 01001.

There is no cost for the pie contest, but pre-registration is necessary by calling the number or emailing the address listed above. Pie contest rules are available at [Thethomassmithhouse.com](http://Thethomassmithhouse.com).



Pictured are some of the apple pies submitted at a previous contest sponsored by the Agawam Historical Association. SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Free clinic open next Tuesday

An urgent-care free clinic for people 18 and older will be offered by New Covenant Community Services and Bethany Assembly of God to provide non-emergency care by a Christian physician, nursing staff and behavioral health counselor.

The clinic will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., on Tuesday, Sept. 1, in room 103. All medical records are kept confidential. For more information, call 413-789-2930.



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# Churches give packs, party to children

By Ted Glanzer  
aan@turley.com

Dozens of people showed up at the Backpack Giveaway at the Lighthouse Christian Church in Feeding Hills on Saturday, Aug. 22.

The two-hour event, which was jointly organized by both Lighthouse and St. David's Episcopal Church, provided about 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to local children. In addition, families could also sign up for a winter coat distribution, which will take place sometime in October. About 45 families were expected to sign up for one coat per family.

The event was also an end-of-the-summer party, complete with face painting, a ring toss, a parachute game, balloon animals and, of course, food.

Both churches distributed backpacks separately last year. When each heard what the other did, they decided to combine their efforts this year as a display of interfaith cooperation and community unity, according to Robbin Egge, Lighthouse's children's ministry leader.

"It's to get children ready for the new school year and also it's sharing God's love for other people," Egge said.

The two churches plan on making it an annual event.



People at the end-of-summer party enjoy a parachute game.



Madelyn Vosburgh shows off a sweet smile as she gets hearts painted on her face during the St. David's Episcopal Church and Lighthouse Community Church backpack giveaway and end-of-summer party last Saturday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY TED GLANZER



From left, Bonnie Ackley and Samantha and Jovani Mastromatteo wait patiently for face painting.



They're not the heroes we need, they're the heroes we deserve. Not one, but three Batmen — Jacob Ackley, Jovani Mastromatteo and Jamai D. — show off their newly painted faces on Aug. 22.



Melissa O'Hare and fiancé Robert Grant enjoy a day out with Silas and Breslin.



Scarlett Ermold awaits her balloon animal creation.



Caden Nooney plays catch during the Saturday event.

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# ICC to hold adult Italian language classes

SPRINGFIELD — The Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass Inc. has announced the fall schedule of adult Italian classes.

A Beginner I level class will be offered on Monday nights and will run from Sept.14 through Nov. 23. There will be no class on Sept. 21.

A Beginner II level class will be offered on Wednesday nights and will run from Sept. 9 through Nov. 18. There will be no class on Sept. 16.

An Intermediate level class will be offered on Friday nights from Sept. 11 through Nov. 20. There will be no class on Sept. 18.

All classes are 6-8 p.m. for 10 weeks and will be held at the Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass. Inc., 56 Margaret St., Springfield. Tuition is \$120 for ICC members and \$130 for non-members.

The course book is available for \$20. Registrations received after Aug. 28 be charged a \$25 late registration fee.

Registration forms are available at [www.iccwm.org](http://www.iccwm.org). For more information, call the registrar at 860-305-1175 or email. [italianaticc@comcast.net](mailto:italianaticc@comcast.net). Once payment is received, confirmation will be sent.

# Firehouse Museum open Sept. 6

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6.

Due to last year's overwhelming response from the public, the museum will once again feature the exhibit "Riverside Park — A Century as the Playground of the Connecticut Valley." The museum is located at 35 Elm St., Agawam.

For more information, visit [www.agawamhistoricalasoc.webs.com](http://www.agawamhistoricalasoc.webs.com).



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# Academy Starz take national title

The Academy of Artistic Performance twirling team recently traveled to South Bend, Ind., and competed in the 2015 NBTA National Championships held at the University of Notre Dame. Among several individual and team placements and awards, the small junior twirl team came home with the national title as well as top five and top 10 National Finalist awards.

The team competed against the best teams from all over the country, many of whom won state and regional championships. Academy Starz, along with other Academy dance and twirl team members, competes throughout New England, the Northeast, and the Mid-Atlantic region throughout the year, looking toward nationals each July, where thousands of twirlers, dancers and halftime performers congregate to celebrate and compete as artists and athletes. It is the third national title that Academy teams have brought home from the Notre Dame event.

For more information, call the Academy of Artistic Performance, 1226 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, at 413-539-4225.

Right: Members of the Academy of Artistic Performing twirling team, back row, from left, Emily Seng, Mollie Dion and Carly Li-quori. Front row, from left, Jamie Cavallon and Haily Mereschuk. SUBMITTED PHOTO



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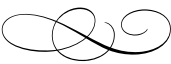
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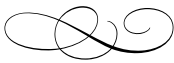
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A variety of tractors — from vintage farm tractors to large and powerful modern tractors — filled the parking lot at E. Cecchi Farms.

# Impressive display of farm machines at Agawam's first tractor show

By Mike Lydick  
aan@turley.com



Two-year-old Aidan Sweet of Westfield gets an up close look at this 1993 John Deere during the tractor show Sunday at E. Cecchi Farms. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Bill Souder, left, and his son Ian were intrigued by this bright yellow tractor, a 1941 McCormick-Deering W4.



Ralph Welch of Huntington drives his 1941 Allis Chambers Model C tractor down Springfield Street on his way to the tractor show at Cecchi Farms.



An avid tractor collector, Les Wojcik of Agawam inspects a 1959 Ford 541 tractor owned by Cecchi Farms.

A variety of tractors, from vintage farm tractors to large and powerful modern tractors, filled the parking lot at E. Cecchi Farms this past Sunday for Agawam's first tractor show.

The event, organized by David Cecchi, showcased many of his family's own tractors as well as numerous others in the area. The purpose of the event was to celebrate Agawam's agricultural heritage. Admission to the show was \$2, with proceeds benefitting the Agawam Historical Association.

"My father collects antique tractors, so I thought having a tractor show at the farm would be a good idea," said Cecchi. "He was washing tractors all week to get ready."

Cecchi added that he was "happy" with the turnout: "It was done on short notice, but we pulled it together."

The show attracted more than 100 spectators who viewed more than 30 tractors. The oldest was a 1928 Caterpillar 10 agricultural crawler tractor that looked more like a bulldozer than a tractor. The newest was a 2012 Bobcat compact tractor owned by the Hope Community Church in Feeding Hills.

Many Agawam residents who attended the show praised the show.

"I love stuff like this in town — and it's for a good cause, too," said Steve Lanier, who brought his son Nolan, 2, with him to the show. "He loves tractors, especially John Deeres."

Mary Ellen Konopka said the show brought many fond memories of visiting her cousin's farm in upstate New York when she was a little girl.

"I've been interested in machinery ever since," said the Agawam resident as she and her husband John perused a big Ford 4000 tractor owned by Cecchi Farms. "This is an impressive show — in fact, it's pretty cool to look at some of the older ones. If they have it next year, we'll come again."

Across the way, Les Wojcik, wearing a T-shirt with images of tractors on the front and the words "You can never have enough" emblazoned at the top, was inspecting another Cecchi tractor, this one a 1959 Ford 541. A tractor collector, the Agawam resident was thrilled about the show.

"I'm loving this," he said.



Feeding Hills farmer Carl Karolinski poses by his 1966 International Harvester 424 diesel tractor wearing his best-looking farm outfit.



Five-year-old Carl Ratkiewicz of South Hadley looks right at home behind the wheel of this 1931 McCormick-Deering tractor owned by Steve Collins of Agawam.



Hampden residents Duane Mosier and Terri and Joe Lawucha look over a big blue Ford 4000 tractor owned by Cecchi Farms.



Agawam farmer Al Finni talks with Mary Ellen and John Konopka about his all-original 1945 Farmall tractor. Finni said the tractor was one of the first ones built after the end of World War II.



Agawam's first tractor show attracted more than a 100 people who saw more than 30 tractors on display at E. Cecchi Farms.



Allan Fish, left, of Westfield and Paul Favreau of Agawam discuss the benefits of a 1977 Hefty Hi-G tractor. The machine is used for cultivating and spraying.



## Congregational Church news, upcoming events

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., “a place to call home — a people to call family.” Worship service is on Sunday at 10 a.m. with children’s message, church school, and coffee and fellowship hour following.

- Sunday, Sept. 2:** Family communion.
- Monday, Sept. 7:** Church office closed for Labor Day.
- Sunday, Sept. 13:** Start-up Sunday with church school teacher dedication and choir dedication. Church school begins. Coffee and fellowship hour follows.
- Thursday, Sept. 17:** 9:30 to 11 a.m., Playgroup begins. Open to the public. Schedule follows Agawam Public Schools schedule.
- Saturday, Sept. 19:** 7:30 a.m., Men’s Ministry meeting at Bobbie J’s in Agawam.
- Sunday, Sept. 20:** 10 a.m., Worship service, church school, coffee hour and fellowship.
- Monday, Sept. 21:** 4 p.m., Loaves & Fishes meeting.
- Friday, Sept. 25:** 9 a.m., Newsletter collation.
- Sunday, Sept. 27:** 10 a.m., Worship service, church school, coffee hour and Faithful Friends.
- Monday, Sept. 28:** 7 p.m., Women’s Ministry meeting in the friendship room.

Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon. Visit [www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com](http://www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com) or email [office@agawamcong.com](mailto:office@agawamcong.com).

## Senior Center Friends to hold barbecue Sept. 22

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center will host a “Close Out the Summer Season” barbecue from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 22. The dinner will include chicken, potato salad, macaroni salad, corn on the cob, coffee or tea, and strawberry shortcake.

The cost is \$12 at the door; \$10 if purchased in advance. The cost for children under the age of 10 is \$5. Early purchase is encouraged as at the last dinner, people at the door had to be turned away as it was sold out.

For tickets, visit the Senior Center, 954 Main St., or call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440. The dinner is open to the public.

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# SPORTS

## SENIORS FOOTBALL

# Seniors preparing for next step

By Gregory A. Scibelli

*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – The Suburban Amateur Football League kicked off the season with the annual jamboree where 14 of the league's 24 teams got a chance to see how their first two weeks of practices has fared for them.

Agawam had the unique distinction of playing Palmer in the jamboree, with the seniors starting out the long day at East Longmeadow High School.

For Seniors head coach Michael Berthiaume, he is looking for a return trip to the playoffs this year and is hoping to go a little bit further this year.

Agawam's schedule is going to be much more difficult this season with the realignment of the SAFL's leagues. The Warriors will be facing both Springfield teams this season along with several other larger towns this year.

Berthiaume said Saturday's game against Palmer, which has a smaller squad, actually was a really good test for his players.

"They had a lot of larger kids for their team this year" said Ber-



The Seniors started their 2015 campaign with a jamboree contest against Palmer. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

FOOTBALL | page 23

## RUNNING

# Agawam athletes participate in Bridge of Flowers 10K

By Nate Rosenthal

*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

SHELBURNE FALLS — The weather was nearly perfect for the 37th running of the Bridge of Flowers Classic 10K Road Race last week. There were 679 finishers in this race. Another 261 runners completed the Steve Lewis Subaru 3K Run and Walk, which preceded the main event. In total, there were two runners from Agawam, both in the 10K.

The 10K men's race was won by Matthew Brooker, of Albany, NY, while Karen Bertasso, also from Albany, made it two in a row for the women. For the first time, there was an entry for a wheelchair competition. Naomi Clark, of Ashfield, took to the course just before the 10K runners started. In the 3K race, Glen Meisenhelder, of Feeding Hills, won for the men, while it was Julie Dragon, of

BRIDGE | page 22



Mike Kennedy, of Agawam, heads toward the finish line. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOG-PHOTOS.COM



Robert King, of Feeding Hills, looks to get to the finish line.

## FIELD HOCKEY

# Gomez takes charge for Lady Brownies

By Gregory A. Scibelli

*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – With hop and a jump over to the next town, an old foe will be bringing her talents to Agawam High School as Karen Gomez takes over the field hockey program this fall.

Gomez was hired to replace Christine Huestis, who stepped down after 15 years to spend more time with her family.

Gomez and Huestis actually have a history together, and Gomez said she received Huestis' blessing to apply to become the head coach at Agawam.

"She called me up and told me that she was not going to be returning this year," said Gomez, who coached the Westfield High School varsity team for the past five years. "I asked if she would be okay if I applied for it, and she told me that would be wonderful."

Gomez was a player at Westfield High School before attending Westfield State University (then College). She played four years of field hockey with three of them as the Owls' goalkeeper. She played with Huestis for three years as a teammate. She then served as a coach during Huestis' senior year in college.

After spending eight years

GOMEZ | page 23

## JUNIORS FOOTBALL

# Juniors look to take step forward

By Gregory A. Scibelli

*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – Agawam Juniors coach Peter Vecchiarelli is no stranger to football and he is looking for his team to make another run toward the Junior Super Bowl in the Suburban Amateur Football League this season.

On Saturday morning, the Junior Warriors faced Palmer in the annual SAFL Kickoff event on the turf at East Longmeadow High School

Vecchiarelli brought 25 players to the field with him and said he is working on helping teach the younger players in fifth and sixth grade how to employ the high school's style of offense. He said it involved a lot of assignments for younger players to learn and adjustments they have to make based on the defense.

He complimented the format



The Agawam Juniors took on Palmer in the SAFL Jamboree on Saturday morning. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

of the kickoff jamboree and says it is a great to get his players ready for the beginning of the season.

"I think this event is fabulous," said Vecchiarelli. "It's a great way to start the year and these guys are sick of hitting each other now."

Last year's Juniors team did

not have a very good year and went just 2-6, not qualifying for the playoffs.

With a year of experience for his sixth-graders and a large depth chart with 64 players in the varsity and JV programs, Vec-

JUNIORS | page 22



# Sports

## PEE-WEE FOOTBALL

### New faces to battle for young Warriors

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam Youth Football Pee Wee Warriors are in a bit of an unfamiliar spot with low numbers and a lot of new players this season.

Thankfully, they have a familiar face to help them learn the game.

Frank Destefano, a longtime football and baseball coach, has stepped in to head up the Agawam Pee Wees.

“I had coached when my kids were going through the program,” said Destefano. “Now my kids are older and I had some time. Dave (Agawam Youth Football President Dave Dematteo) called me up looking to fill the Pee Wee job, and I said yes.”

Destefano said he has just 22 kids on his team, and even more difficult, 17 of them are completely new to football.

“Last year’s team won the Super Bowl,” said Destefano. “Most of those kids moved up to the Juniors team. I have just five kids back this year from last year’s team.”

The Pee Wee Warriors consist of 15 third-graders new to the program. Two new fourth graders, and five returners. Fortunately for Destefano, the group has showed up for the past two weeks very eager to learn.

“We are really getting to down the bare basics,” said Destefano. “We are teaching them how to play this game. We are teaching how to line up, how to hand off the ball, what the line of scrimmage is, how to tackle, and how to block.”

Tackling and blocking are core skills he is trying to teach the young new players. He says the emphasis on “heads up” tackling in order to prevent concussions is something being taught across the board and something the kids need to learn very early in order to be successful at football.

In addition, Destefano says he is teaching a modified version of the high school’s style of play in order to create continuity through the youth ranks up to the high school.

While he is starting from scratch, Destefano says the kids have made significant progress in just the first two weeks, culminating with an appearance at the Suburban Amateur Football League’s kickoff last Saturday morning. Agawam played a scrimmage against Palmer got to see the progress of the newcomers to competitive football.

“They really have picked up well,” said Destefano. “I was most impressed with the proper tackling I saw. The kids scored a few touchdowns, and they prevented Palmer from scoring at all.”

Destefano says the team still needs to work on blocking, and they will be focused on that as they move toward a scrimmage with Ludlow, and their first game on Sept. 6 against Chicopee.

With the league re-alignments, the schedule will be difficult for Agawam, which will play a lot tougher teams this season. He also said a lack of depth could also be a problem this year.



The Agawam Pee-Wee program kicked off the 2015 season with a jamboree contest against Palmer. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

### Lady Ballers take home title



WILBRAHAM - The Springfield Lady Ballers won the Girls High School division in the Spec Pond Summer basketball league by beating Hill Road A.C 34-25 in the finals.

The girls finished with a record of 12-1, the only loss due to a forfeit. Half the team is entering eighth grade and the other half is entering their freshman year of high school. Most of the girls play for the AAU organization — the Springfield Lady Ballers

Back row (from left to right) are: Natalie Pullen of Agawam, Sam Jenks of South Hadley, Bella DeMattia of Hampden, Nicole Coolidge of East Longmeadow, Jillian Weldon of Longmeadow, and McKinley White of Southwick. Front row: Caitlin Bonavita of Wilbraham, Payton Lemke of Agawam, Autumn Strange of Hampden, Kelsey Sheehan of Hampden and Jenna Joseph of Longmeadow. Missing from photo: Gabby Ofcarsik of Hampden.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED PHOTO

### Godek duo place second



LAKEVILLE - Dean Godek and his daughter, Alia Godek, both from Feeding Hills, shot 74 to finish in 2nd place at the State Father/Daughter tournament at LeBaron Hills Country Club.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joseph A. Walz, DMD, PC  
Andrea C. Fallon, DMD.  
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# Sports

## JUNIORS ■ from page 20

chiarelli believes his team is poised for a good season, though the road to a playoff game will be much more difficult.

Under the new AFC and NFC Conference formats, the top two teams in the East Division and West Division will qualify for the playoffs.

The top team in the East will play the number two team in the West, while the West winner will play the second-place team in the East. The winners advance to the Super Bowl.

This means there will be fewer teams in the playoffs this year with just eight of the 24 teams qualifying. A 6-2 record is something most teams would have to aim for in order to qualify.

Vecchiarelli says while it would be great to make the playoffs, it is still youth football at the Juniors level and that is not his focus.

“The goal is really to get the kids better and make football players of them,” said Vecchiarelli. “We are trying to improve them so they are able to make it at the high school level. And if we make the playoffs, then that is a good thing.”

With the re-aligned division and Agawam's schedule against mostly larger towns, Vecchiarelli says the team has a tough year ahead.

Agawam's schedule starts on Sunday, Sept. 6 at home against Chicopee.

*Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.*



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS  
PHOTOS BY  
GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Pioneers get ready to face Newtown Pride Labor Day Weekend

LUDLOW - The Western Mass Pioneers will host the Newtown Pride FC at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 6, at 3 p.m. at Lusitano Stadium, during the popular Our Lady of Fatima Festa.

“We are happy to have Newtown come play us,” said Pioneers General Manager Greg Kolodziej. “Our fans and Festa visitors from all over New England love to see a soccer game here at historic Lusitano Stadium. We hope this game against the Pride becomes an annual event.”

Newtown Pride FC plays in the Connecticut Soccer League. They also played the Pioneers in 2013 during Festa weekend. The Pride will be bringing scarves and other merchandise for sale to help support the team and various charities in Newtown.

Admission to this game is free.

## BRIDGE ■ from page 20

Sturbridge, topping the women's field.

A clear difference between this year and many of the previous editions was the absence of some of the world class men's runners from other countries. The top two from 2013 and 2014, Amos Sang and Glarius Rop both from Kenya, were not competing. In addition, the third-place finisher of those two years, Justin Freeman, of New Hampshire, also did not participate. That brought a new dynamic to the field.

The Agawam runners in the 10K were Mike Kennedy, 210 and Ingrid Agis, 663.

The men's winner, Brooker is a newcomer. He won handily over local favorite, Dan Smith, of Shelburne Falls. He broke the tape with a time of 33 minutes, 50 seconds, while Smith came in at 33:32. Exactly a minute behind Brooker was the third-place finisher Jon Korhonen, of Somerville. Brooker and Smith took off from the field almost immediately and separated. Brooker held off a bid by Smith as they climbed Crittenden Hill and then took charge to win the race going away.

Bertasso returned after winning in her Bridge of Flowers debut a year ago. Her time of 37:46 beat Hannah Brooker, who along with husband Matthew was also making her first appearance at the Classic. Third place went to Apryl Sabadosa, of Westfield. Bertasso was a full minute faster than a year ago, when she beat Sabadosa. For her part, Sabadosa was nearly a minute faster than a year ago. The great finishes by the Brookers was another highlight to this year's event.

Once again, the director of the race, Mike McCusker, who founded the race did his part as master of ceremonies. He was there to start them off, after some small talk amongst the opening festivities. After the race, he once again handed out the prizes, while introducing the top finishers.

McCusker got this event underway in 1979, as part of the Buckland Bicentennial.

The 10K course starts in the center of the village on the now famous iron bridge, which is next to the actual Bridge of Flowers. At the beginning, it is relatively flat with some small hills, as the runners circle around come into the center. That is when everything changes. At about the 3K mark, the runners approach Crittenden Hill, which is an ascent of about 300 feet. Separation usually begins there. Crittenden Hill has a reputation that rivals that of Heartbreak Hill in the Boston Marathon. The difference is that Crittenden is at the beginning of the Bridge of Flowers Race, but can be just as heartbreaking, only earlier.

After a steady descent from a high point of 750 feet, the last 4K of the race is run on fairly level ground. The runners finish the race after crossing the iron bridge. There

have been adjustments to the course over the years and in fact the race went across the Bridge of Flowers for a short time.

Not enough can be said about the townspeople who gathered along the route. They would be out there handing out water, spraying runners as they ran by or just cheering them on. Once again, there was a man in kilts playing the bagpipes at the beginning of the race. This is a true spectator event as the community reaches out to the runners in every way. It is such a credit to the people of Shelburne Falls.

Then there are the volunteers, who helped this event run so smoothly. They came from all over the area and could be seen at the start, along the course and at the finish. The people involved take a lot of pride in seeing this race be all that it can be. Steve Lewis Subaru of Hadley again provided vehicles to lead the way in front of the runners. There were lead cars for the men's and women's races and a truck from which the press could have a great vantage point to observe the race.

The festivities began at 8:15 a.m. with the Steve Lewis 3K Classic Walk and Run. For many years, it was run as the Nathan Hale Classic. This is a shorter race for those who want to take part, but are not quite ready for the big race that is more than triple the distance. There is also nothing like the daunting incline that is Crittenden Hill. Of the nearly 1000 runners on the day, more than a quarter of them took part in the 3K.

In the 3K, Meisenhelder went 10:46, some 10 seconds faster than a year ago, when he was second. He won in 2013. Second was Jeremy Astesano at 10:57 and in third was Thierry Astesano in 11:49. Both are from Cambridge. Rounding out the top five were Barry Auskern, of Bernardston, and Brian St. Jean, of Russell.

The first woman to finish was Julie Dragon, of Sturbridge. Her time of 12:49 was sixth overall and almost 2:00 faster than that of runner up Agnes Browne, of Greenfield, who came in at 14:46. Third was Deborah Zukowski, 14:59 from Shelburne Falls. Colleen Fry, of Holden, and Melissa Kline-Struhl, of Somerville, were fourth and fifth.

The 3K race featured the youngest and oldest competitors in either race. Once again, it was Ray Willis, of Charlemont, who is now 86 years old, at one end. On the other, Josephine Cross, of Heath, was running the race as a 2-year-old. Also worth noting is Audrey Brown, of Colrain, who at 82 was the oldest woman. The youngest boys were a couple of 4-year-olds from Shelburne Falls, Cobra Buchanan and Oliver Ferris.

The last runners returned from the 3K and 15 minutes later, it was time to send off the 10K runners. At 9 a.m. on the dot, the bell tolled and the runners were off. As they broke, the lead runners took their places

quickly with Brooker and Smith jumping to the front. As they headed into the first left turn, Aaron Stone had joined them and he would remain in the top tier until they were halfway down Pleasant Street. The two-some quickly separated themselves from the rest of the field.

As they moved along Pleasant Street, they were a good 50 yards ahead of that second tier and then he started to pull away from Smith and the one-mile mark by 30 yards. Brooker's time was 5:09. At this point, trying to stay with Brooker at the beginning was having some effect of Smith and the field started to gain on him. But he managed to pick it up again and once again separated himself from the pack. Meanwhile Brooker just kept adding space leading when they got back to the downtown area, his lead was by nearly 100 yards. He was all by himself as they started up the hill. And his second mile was nearly identical to his first at 5:11.

But Crittenden Hill was going to be a challenge for Brooker. He would say later that he has never seen anything like it and as they were climbing, it was quite clear that he was having difficulty. While Brooker's head was down through the climb, Smith was upright and closing. As someone who knows the hill, he looked a lot more comfortable. What gap was once about 100 yards was now down to about 30 and it appeared as though Smith might catch him, but just before he reached the crest, Brooker started picking up the pace and he doubled his lead on Smith in short order. By the time they got to mile three on the downward slope, Brooker was ahead by 100 yards again. That was the halfway point and it appeared that it was going to be Brooker's race to lose.

When they reached Rand Road, which is about a mile from the finish, Brooker still led by 100 over Smith. Some 75 yards behind him was Korhonen and 50 yards back from there was David Burnham of West Hartford. That order would hold for the rest of the race.

When Brooker came into view into the final turn before the Iron Bridge, the crowd greeted him heartily. He breezed past them and broke the tape at 33:50. It was another 43 seconds before Smith came in and the local favorite crossed the finish line in 34:33. Korhonen was not far behind at 34:50. Burnham did 35:14 and Alex Kramer, a teammate of Korhonen from Somerville, went 35:26.

Next was Bertasso, As the first woman, she was 14th overall, 12 seconds behind the 13th-place finisher. Her time was 37:46. Hannah Brooker, her Albany teammate got second at 38:20 and Sabadosa placed third at 39:01.

Clark spoke of her pioneering effort. “It feels awesome to be the first to do this at this great race. I like the idea of being the

first. And it was all I could have hoped it to be. I was nervous, but having done other 10Ks made it a bit easier. Going up Crittenden Hill was a unbelievably tough. I felt like my heart was going to burst out of my chest. But the ride, down was a lot of fun.” She could be heard going “whee” as she sped by the press vehicle.

It was 10 years ago, when Clark, now 30, suffered a spinal injury when ring an ATV. She is paralyzed from the chest down and will not walk again. That has not stopped her from continuing with her life and this is an example of her great courage and determination. Clark works at a family apple farm in Ashfield.

Brooker admitted to being taken aback by Crittenden, when he first saw it. “I’m from Pennsylvania and we don’t have anything like this in that part of the state. Hannah, my wife, is from the New York in the Adirondacks and she was able to calm me down. “As I was running it, I tried to stay relaxed. I used a technique called cresting as I approached the top. That allowed me to pick up the pace and I was able to pull away. Brooker ran cross country in Central Pennsylvania and then went to Cedarville University in Dayton, Ohio, and continued to run. He also met Hannah there and they are still running together.

Smith recalled trying to catch Brooker. “He got away from after the start, but I was hoping that I could make it up on the hill, being familiar with it. I had gone to Mexico to train some and I was confident that the hill might make the difference for me. I saw that I was gaining as we climbed and I got to within 10 seconds of him, but then just as started to get to the top, he sped up and pulled away. I did not have that quick gear today.”

Bertasso was happy with her win. “I was able to go faster this year and I am very happy with that. Having run with Hannah, I was able to gauge what she was going to do. I got an early lead and when I got to the hill I was able to stay with the plan. Hannah is a great runner and I had to work hard to beat her. The 31-year-old used to play soccer, but has found her niche as a runner.”

“Karen took off at the beginning and that was pretty much it,” said Brooker of her battle with Bertasso. I had a notion to catch her at the hill, but she kept up a steady pace and I was not able to close the gap. She opened up her lead and at that point, I realized I would not catch her, so I settled in for the rest of the race.” Brooker has a great story as well. Sixteen months ago, she had a baby and started running again nine days after the birth. After six months, she was back to her old self as a runner.

*Nate Rosenthal is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.*



# Agawam 2015 fall varsity schedules

Cross Country				Friday, Sept. 11	Away	Chicopee	3 p.m.	Monday, Oct. 26	Home	Longmeadow	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 15	Away	Holyoke	4 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 15	Away	Longmeadow	3 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 28	Away	Amherst	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 22	Away	West Springfield	4 p.m.	Wednesday, Sept. 16	Away	Minnechaug	3 p.m.				
Tuesday, Sept. 29	Home	Belchertown	3:45 p.m.	Thursday, Sept. 17	Away	Chicopee Comp	3 p.m.	Girls Soccer			
Tuesday, Oct. 20	Away	East Longmeadow	4 p.m.	Monday, Sept. 21	Away	Northampton	3 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 8	Away	Southwick	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 27	Home	South Hadley	3:45 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 22	Home	South Hadley	3 p.m.	Thursday, Sept. 10	Home	Westfield	7 p.m.
				Wednesday, Sept. 23	Home	West Springfield	3 p.m.	Thursday, Sept. 17	Away	Chicopee Comp	7 p.m.
				Thursday, Sept. 24	Home	Longmeadow	3 p.m.	Saturday, Sept. 19	Away	West Springfield	7 p.m.
				Monday, Sept. 28	Home	West Springfield	3 p.m.	Monday, Sept. 21	Home	Northampton	4 p.m.
				Tuesday, Sept. 29	Away	Ludlow	3 p.m.	Wednesday, Sept. 23	Home	Central	4 p.m.
				Wednesday, Sept. 30	Away	East Longmeadow	3 p.m.	Monday, Sept. 28	Home	West Springfield	7 p.m.
				Monday, Oct. 5	Away	Belchertown	3 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 1	Away	Minnechaug	4 p.m.
				Tuesday, Oct. 6	Home	Minnechaug	3 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 6	Home	Ludlow	4 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 8	Home	Central	3 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 7	Home	Holyoke	7 p.m.
				Tuesday, Oct. 13	Away	South Hadley	3 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 9	Away	East Longmeadow	4 p.m.
				Wednesday, Oct. 14	Away	Westfield	3 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 13	Away	Northampton	4 p.m.
				Gymnastics							
				Thursday, Sept. 24	Home	Hampshire, Westfield	6 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 15	Home	Belchertown	4 p.m.
				Tuesday, Sept. 29	Away	Minnechaug w/Chicopee Comp	6 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 16	Home	Chicopee Comp	4 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 8	Away	Hampshire	6 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 20	Home	Longmeadow	7 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 15	Home	Westfield, Minnechaug	6 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 23	Away	Westfield	4 p.m.
				Wednesday, Oct. 21	Away	Chicopee Comp w/Westfield	6 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 28	Away	Granby	4 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 22	Away	Westfield	6 p.m.	Girls Volleyball			
				Thursday, Oct. 29	Away	Hampshire w/Chicopee Comp	6 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 8	Away	Chicopee Comp	5 p.m.
				Boys Soccer							
				Tuesday, Sept. 8	Away	Ludlow	6 p.m.	Thursday, Sept. 10	Home	East Longmeadow	5 p.m.
				Friday, Sept. 11	Away	Longmeadow	6:30 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 15	Away	Ludlow	5 p.m.
				Wednesday, Sept. 16	Home	Chicopee Comp	7 p.m.	Thursday, Sept. 17	Away	West Springfield	5 p.m.
				Friday, Sept. 18	Away	Minnechaug	6 p.m.	Monday, Sept. 21	Away	Westfield	6 p.m.
				Tuesday, Sept. 22	Home	West Springfield	4 p.m.	Wednesday, Sept. 23	Away	Amherst	6 p.m.
				Friday, Sept. 25	Home	Central	4 p.m.	Tuesday, Sept. 29	Home	Frontier	5 p.m.
				Wednesday, Sept. 30	Away	East Longmeadow	6:30 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 1	Away	Longmeadow	6 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 1	Home	Belchertown	7 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 6	Home	South Hadley	5 p.m.
				Monday, Oct. 5	Away	Cathedral	4 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 7	Home	Minnechaug	5 p.m.
				Wednesday, Oct. 7	Away	Central	4 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 9	Home	West Springfield	5 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 8	Home	Northampton	4 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 13	Home	Sabis	5 p.m.
				Monday, Oct. 12	Home	Cathedral	4 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 14	Home	Chicopee	5 p.m.
				Wednesday, Oct. 14	Home	Ludlow	4 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 16	Away	Frontier	6 p.m.
				Monday, Oct. 19	Away	Belchertown	4 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 20	Away	Minnechaug	5 p.m.
				Wednesday, Oct. 21	Away	Holyoke	4 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 23	Home	Turners Falls	6 p.m.
				Thursday, Oct. 22	Away	West Springfield	7 p.m.	Tuesday, Oct. 27	Home	Longmeadow	5 p.m.
								Thursday, Oct. 29	Home	Amherst	6:30 p.m.



# WEDDING AND EVENT PLANNER

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**Stevens Jewelers & Diamond Gallery** – A family operated company with wholesale and retail operations. Buying gold, silver and diamonds, jewelry & watch repair, custom design & remounts. Personalized engraving, appraisals. Visit us at our NEW location 1501 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA. 413-731-9800.

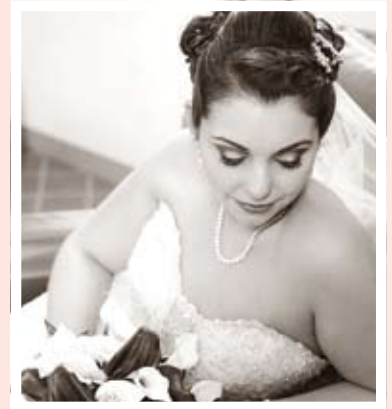
## PHOTOGRAPHY

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**Karen Geaghan Photography** – My life, my passion, my love! Specializing in Life Cycle Photography: Weddings, Maternity, Newborn, Children & Families. Doing small things with great love because in the end I believe it's the little things that count the most. Clients become family! Visit me at [www.karengeaghanphotos.com](http://www.karengeaghanphotos.com) or call 413-596-2227 or 537-3001. I would LOVE to hear from you!

## RENTALS

**Michael's Party Rentals** – Showers, ceremonies, rehearsal dinners, receptions. Tents for 10-500. Tables, chairs, dance floors, linens, tent lighting, events, graduations, bbq's. Call 413-583-3123 or visit us on the web at [www.michaelspartyrentals.com](http://www.michaelspartyrentals.com).



Photos by Karen Geaghan Photography



Photos by Aim Images



# Out & About

*OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com), fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.*

**Saturday, Aug. 29**

COMMUNITY GRANGE 382 OF FEEDING HILLS will host an “End of the Summer Feast” from 3:30-6:30 p.m. It will be held at the Grange Hall, 47 North West St. and will include corn on the cob, clam chowder, all-beef hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, dessert and choice of beverage. Donation, \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 10 and under. Reservations suggested; call Pauline at 413-789-2061. Walk-ins welcome.

**Sunday, Aug. 30**

A CARD AND COLLECTIBLE SHOW will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Boys and Girls Club, 580 Meadow St. Admission \$1; kids under 10 free. Over 40 tables, a door prize drawing every 30 minutes, and the club is handicap accessible. For more information, call (413) 593-6046.

**Wednesday, Sept. 2**

THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGY SOCIETY will meet at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Pauline Cusson, an expert on French genealogy research, will share her expertise on how to search for your French ancestor. All genealogy researchers, beginners to experts are welcome. Membership is \$25 a year for the monthly meetings and computer research workshops. Computer research workshop only is \$10 a year.

**Friday, Sept. 4**

THE SPRINGFIELD SCIENCE MUSEUM’S large rooftop telescope will be open for public sky gazing 7:30 p.m. as part of the “Stars Over Springfield” observatory series, rain or shine. Admission is \$3 for adults; \$2 for children 17 and under. For more information, call 413-263-6800 ext. 318.

**Sunday, Sept. 6**

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM, 35 Elm St., will be open from 1-4 p.m. The museum will once again feature the exhibit, “Riverside Park - A Century as the Playground of the Connecticut Valley.” For more information, visit [www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com](http://www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com) or email [HistoricalAssoc@gmail.com](mailto:HistoricalAssoc@gmail.com).

**Wednesday, Sept. 9**

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

**Friday, Sept. 11**

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL’S APPLAUSE SERIES gets underway at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 7 p.m. with a concert of “Hits of the American Songbook” performed by Dan Kane & Friends.

AN ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW will be held today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Glenmeadow Retirement, 24 Tabor Crossing, Longmeadow. Proceeds will be donated to Safe Passage, an organization that works to prevent domestic violence and offers shelter for women and children.

**Saturday, Sept. 12**

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION will host an apple pie contest in conjunction with a tag and bake sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the historic Thomas Smith House, 251 North West St., Feeding Hills. For more information, visit [Thethomassmithhouse.com](http://Thethomassmithhouse.com).

CUB SCOUT PACK 118 in Southwick will hold a bottle and can drive from 9 a.m. to noon at the Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway. The Pack will also be selling different flavors of popcorn as its yearly fundraiser. For more information, call Jenn Schmidt at 413-575-9458.

**Sunday, Sept. 13**

THE OLD COUNTRY ROAD BAND will perform country and blues music at 2 p.m. at North Hall, 40 Searle Road, Huntington. Open seating. \$10 at the door; students free. Wheelchair-access, air-conditioned. For more information, call 413-667-5543 or visit [www.northhall-huntington.org](http://www.northhall-huntington.org).

**Sunday, Sept. 20**

ANTIQUES APPRAISAL DAY WITH KNOTTY PINE ANTIQUES from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Noble & Cooley Center for Historical Preservation, 42 Water St., Granville. For more information, call 413-357-6321.

**Sunday, Oct. 4**

A CARD AND COLLECTIBLE SHOW will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Boys and Girls Club, 580 Meadow St. Admission \$1; kids under 10 free. Over 40 tables, a door prize drawing every 30 minutes, and the club is handicap accessible. For more information, call (413) 593-6046.

**Wednesday, Oct. 28**

AGAWAM PARANORMAL PROGRAM at 6:30 p.m. at the Noble & Cooley Center for Historical Preservation, 42 Water St., Granville. For more information, call 413-357-6321

**ONGOING**

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Rectory

conference room, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandline at [rosmarysandlin@gmail.com](mailto:rosmarysandlin@gmail.com)

THE WESTFIELD FARMERS MARKET is held every Thursday afternoon from 12:30 – 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., until Oct. 8. Free parking available. Locally grown flowers, plants, vegetables, honey and bee products, maple syrup, goat meat and goats’ milk products, relishes and jams, baked goods, forested pork, free range chicken and eggs, wine, hot cider donuts, and more. SNAP EBT cards accepted. A \$5 transaction will provide SNAP customers \$10 worth of credit.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers “Crochet Club” every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

## Agawam Senior Center

**Lunch Menu**

**Monday, Aug. 31:** Chicken stir fry, stir fry vegetables, brown rice, bananas.

**Tuesday, Sept. 1:** Sheperd’s pie, three-bean salad, birthday cake.

**Wednesday, Sept. 2:** Roast chicken marsala, mashed potatoes, dilled carrots, diced peaches.

**Thursday, Sept. 3:** Ziti with sausage and peppers, garden salad, pineapple chunks.

**Friday, Sept. 4:** Baked cod florentine, rice, buttered spinach, pudding.

**Calendar of Events**

**Monday, Aug. 31:** 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

**Tuesday, Sept. 1:** class registration week; last shuf-

fleboard of the season; 12:30 p.m., movie, Mah Jongg, ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.

**Wednesday, Sept. 2:** 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 10 a.m., Friends meeting; noon, noon, Medicare talk with Peta Shepard, 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, ballroom lessons; 1:30 p.m., Agawam Golden Agers Chapter 2 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

**Thursday, Sept. 3:** 9:30 a.m., no quilting during September; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing.

**Friday, Sept. 4:** 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

# Church Directory

**AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

745 Main St., Agawam  
786-7111  
Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson  
[office@AgawamCong.com](mailto:office@AgawamCong.com)  
[www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com](http://www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com)

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.  
Communion on the first Sunday of the month  
Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.  
“A place to call home ~ A people to call family”

**AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills  
413-786-4174  
Pastor: Ken Blanchard  
[agawamumc@gmail.com](mailto:agawamumc@gmail.com)  
[www.agawamworship.org](http://www.agawamworship.org)

WORSHIP SERVICES  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Holy Communion served 1st and 3rd Sundays.  
Coffee hour after worship; Bible Study after fellowship.  
Prepare Meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m.  
Offsite Worship:  
Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.  
Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m.  
Heritage Woods, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.  
Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays, 11 a.m.

**BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

580 Main St., Agawam  
(413) 789-2930  
[www.bethany-ag.org](http://www.bethany-ag.org)  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
Sunday 9am & 10:45am  
Christian Education offered during both services.  
Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

**CHURCH OF REDEMPTION**

50 Maple St., Agawam  
(413) 304-2313  
[churchor.org](http://churchor.org)

WORSHIP SERVICES

Summer Schedule  
Sunday Services, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children

**FAITH BIBLE CHURCH**

370 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam  
(413) 786-1681  
[jesussaves.7@comcast.net](mailto:jesussaves.7@comcast.net)  
Church Website: [www.faithbible-church.org](http://www.faithbible-church.org)  
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES  
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Prayer  
Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

**FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC**

“An Open and Affirming Congregation.”  
21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills  
P.O. Box 264  
(413) 786-5061  
[fhccucc@comcast.net](mailto:fhccucc@comcast.net)  
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

Church School 10:15 a.m.  
Worship Service 10 a.m.  
Infant and child care provided.  
Handicap accessible.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM**

760 Main St., Agawam  
[churchedie@comcast.net](mailto:churchedie@comcast.net)  
[www.firstbaptistagawam.org](http://www.firstbaptistagawam.org)  
Pastor: Rev. George Thomson

SUNDAY SERVICES  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School (grades K - 5)  
following Children’s Message until 10:45  
Youth Group meets at 11 a.m.  
Coffee & Conversation following worship service

**HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

152 South Westfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES  
Men’s & Women’s Bible Study Groups and  
Children’s Sunday School Worship Service at

10 a.m. Children’s Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service. Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

**MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH**

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills  
Feeding Hills, MA  
478-9484  
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.  
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

**SACRED HEART CHURCH**

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills  
(413) 786-8200  
[www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org](http://www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org)  
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES  
Lord’s Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.;  
Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.  
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.  
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday,  
Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.  
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the  
Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

**ST. DAVID’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.  
786-6133  
[saintdavid@comcast.net](mailto:saintdavid@comcast.net)  
[www.stdavidsgawam.org](http://www.stdavidsgawam.org).

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES  
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

**ST. JOHN’S CHURCH**

823 Main St., Agawam  
786-8105  
[info@stjohnangelistchurch.org](mailto:info@stjohnangelistchurch.org).  
[www.stjohnagawam.org](http://www.stjohnagawam.org)

SCHEDULE OF MASSES  
Saturdays: 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor Day)  
Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., Latin Mass 12:30 p.m.  
Reconciliation: Fridays, 7:15 to 8 a.m., Saturdays, 4 to 4:45 p.m.  
Weekdays: Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m.  
Thursday: Communion Service



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Wed., Thurs., Sat., Sun. 10-2

## Brown's Provin Mt Farm

461 Northwest St., Feeding Hills  
413-786-0495  
[brownsprovinmtfarm.com](http://brownsprovinmtfarm.com)

### PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a “people news” form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email [mballway@turley.com](mailto:mballway@turley.com).

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**A CUSTOM MADE** Med-Lift Mobility Chair made in Mississippi for sale. Earth tone colors- brand new. Paid \$1,149.00 will sell for \$700. Call **978-355-6388**. Holds up to 400 lbs.



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**ANTIQUE AND PERIOD** chairs – Restored with new woven seats – Many styles and weaves available. Call **(413)267-9680**.

**COLLECTIBLES MATCHBOX 1970S** 135 Lesney, 48 Macao, 11 Lesney trucks with 7 trailers, 57 bell collection. 70 bear collection: Boyds, Hamilton, miscellaneous. **(413)626-7796**

## Estate Sale

**ESTATE SALE, SATURDAY,** August 29, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 120 Labelle Circle, Chicopee. Furniture including dining room set, bedroom set and miscellaneous furniture and household items.

**ESTATE/TAG SALE** 17 Warren Street, Ludlow. Sat. August 29 & Sunday August 30, 9-5. 80 years worth of items. **NO EARLY BIRDS!** Indoor sale- Rain or Shine. Kitchen and housewares, antiques, furniture, tools, misc. Also items from garage and basement. No children's clothes or toys.

## Tag Sale

**21 PORTER DRIVE,** Agawam Sat. Aug. 29, Sunday Aug. 30, 10am-4pm. Bikes, Treadmill, Body Builder exerciser, much more

**MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE** Plenty of items for everyone. Household items, clothes, kid's items, pictures, and much more. Behind Sentry Uniform 803 James St., Chicopee Saturday August 29th

**TAG SALE FRIDAY** & Saturday 08/28-08/29 8am-3pm 154 Springfield Rd, Belchertown Lots of items. Something for everyone.

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**!!!!ALL RED & WHITE OAK!!!!** Seasoned over a cord guaranteed. Cut, split, prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood **(413)348-4326**.

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**CORDWOOD PARTIALLY SEASONED HARDWOOD** cut and split. \$225/ cord, 128 ct.ft. 2 cord minimum. Call **(413)283-4977**

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## Miscellaneous

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## Wanted

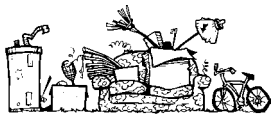
**WANTED ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES** Furniture, Advertising signs, Toys, Dolls, Trains, Crocks & Jugs, Musical Instruments, Sterling Silver & Gold, Coins, Jewelry, Books, Primitives, Vintage Clothing, Military items, Old Lamps. Anything old. Contents of attics, barns and homes. One item or complete estate. Call **(413)267-3786** or **(413)539-1472** Ask for Frank. **WE PAY FAIR PRICES!!!**

## Wanted To Buy

**NEW ENGLAND ESTATE PICKERS** "in the Old Monson Bowling Alley" **We are buying** all types of Antiques and Collectibles!! Simply **Bring your items in** for a Free Evaluation and/ or Cash Offer!! We will come to you. **Contents of attic, basements, entire estates!!** Clean sweep service. All **Gold and Silver** Items to include; jewelry, costume and estate pcs., wrist/pocket watches, class ring, etc., broken or not. **Silverware sets,** trays, trophies, etc., Coins of all sorts, Proof sets, Silver dollars and other coinage collections! All types of **Old Advertising Signs, Military items** to include Daggers, Swords, Bayonets, guns, medals, uniforms, helmets etc. **Old toys,** train sets, dolls, metal trucks, old games, model car kits from the '60s, **old bicycles, motorcycles,** pedal cars, Matchbox, action figures, Pre-1970's Baseball cards, comic books, etc.! Old picture frames, prints and **oil paintings,** old fishing equipment, lures, **tackle boxes!** Post Card albums, **old coke machines,** pinball, juke boxes, slot machines, **musical instruments,** guitars of all types, banjos, horns, accordions, etc. **Old cameras,** microscopes, telescopes, etc. **Just like on T.V. We buy all things seen on "Pickers" and the "Pawn Shop" shows!!** Call or **Bring your items in** to our 4,500 square foot store!! 64 Main Street., Monson ("The Old Bowling Alley") **We are your Estate Specialists!!** Over 30 yrs. in the Antique Business! Prompt Courteous Service! Open Wed.-Sat. 10:00- 5:00 Sun. 12:00- 5:00 **(413)267-3729**.

## Services

\*\*\*\*\*



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## Services



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**\*\*\*\*\* A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\*** Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)267-3353, cell (413)222-8868**.

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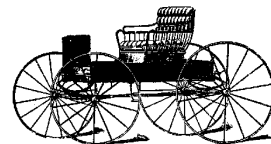
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**WE RENOVATE, SELL & PURCHASE** (any condition) horse drawn vehicles such as sleighs, carriages, surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, driveable or lawn ornaments. Some furniture and other restoration services available. Reasonable prices. Quality workmanship. Call **(413)213-0373** for estimate and information.

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**BABYSITTING AND CHILD CARE**

Education, first aide, child/infant CPR, safety, 6 hour course, register @ TemporaryParent.com **(413)273-3864**

## Child Services

**\*NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

## Cleaning Services

**BUSINESS CLEANING- TIRED** of doing your own cleaning or just need a change? Call Marshall at A.C.T Cleaning **(413)374-7443**. Insured, references available

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**COMPUTERS SHOULDN'T BE** frustrating or frightening. I'll come to you. Upgrades, troubleshooting, set-up, tutoring. Other electronics too. Call Monique **(413)237-1035**.

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**BILL CAMERLIN. ADDITIONS,** service changes, small jobs for homeowners, fire alarms. Fast, dependable, reasonable rates. Insured, free estimates. E280333. 24 hour emergency service. **(413)427-5862**.

**DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY** service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call **(413)244-7096**.

**JAMES FERRIS: LICENSE** #E16303. Free estimates. Senior Discounts. Insured. 40 years experience. No job too small. Cell **(413)330-3682**.

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**GARY GUERTIN EXCAVATING** Screened loam, Bobcat and mini excavator services, grading and land clearing, brush mowing, concrete demolition, power raking and oil tank removal. **(413)531-3538** or **(413)583-3846**.

## Home Improvement

**C-D HOME IMPROVEMENT.** 1 Call for all your needs. Windows, siding, roofs, additions, decks, baths, hardwood floors, painting. All work 100% guaranteed. Licensed and insured. Call Bob **(413)596-8807** Cell **CS Lic. #97110, HIC Lic #162905**

**CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION** Kitchen, bath, foyers. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin **(978)355-6864**.



To Celebrate the **LABOR DAY** Holiday



**EARLY DEADLINES**



for **CLASSIFIED ADS**  
For the week of 9/7/15 publications

**DEADLINE is**  
**Thursday, Sept. 3rd, Noon**



Buzzin' from Town to Town

# Classifieds



Turley Publications' Community Marketplace ♦ www.turley.com ♦ Call us toll free at 1-800-824-6548

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**DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT** for all your exterior home improvement needs. **ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUTTERS.** Extensive references available. Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT. Call **GARY DELCAMP @ 413-569-3733**

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**MENARD GARAGE DOORS** Authorized Raynor dealer specializing in sales, installation service and repairs of residential and light commercial overhead garage doors and openers. Fully insured. Free estimates. Call **(413)289-6550** or [www.menardgaragedoors.com](http://www.menardgaragedoors.com)

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Full Service Property Maintenance  
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Over 30 yrs. in business  
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## Help Wanted

**BRIMFIELD FOOD CONCESSION** seeks kitchen staff, order takers, short order breakfast cook. For 09/10-09/11  
email: [realm4712@aol.com](mailto:realm4712@aol.com)

**DRIVERS: LOCAL P&D** Home Daily Openings! Excellent Pay, Comprehensive Benefits & More!  
1yr CDL-A w/X & T Exp. Req. (EOE/AA) Old Dominion Freight Line. Call Mike Rainwater: **1-800-343-6335**

## Help Wanted

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT CLERK** The Town of Hampden is seeking to fill the position of Building Department Clerk. The hours are Monday through Thursday 8:30 am - 12:00 noon. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: Efficient in Excel and Word, Answer phones and set appointments, Basic booking functions, Maintaining and organizing records, Controlling the collection and processing of fees received, Reports to other departments. Please forward a simple resume to:

**Hampden Building Department**  
**625 Main Street**  
**Hampden, MA 01036**  
**Or fax: 566-2010**

All resumes must be in by Sept. 7th for consideration.



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Join Van Pool now by calling John for Springfield area at **(413) 599-1616** or Echo **(978) 355-2121** for the Hilltown area and make a difference. EEO

**FOSTER CARE: YOU** can help change someone's life. Provide a safe home for children and teens who have been abused or neglected. Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care at **413-734-2493.**

**HELP WANTED SELF** motivated full time person for maintenance of property common areas, restrooms, lawn care and snow removal. Call Bill **413-533-3600, 413-563-7154**

**HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALISTS:** Sunshine Village's has several openings for experienced staff to assist adults with developmental disabilities in a Day Habilitation (Chicopee, Springfield & Three Rivers). The ideal candidate will be a positive role model with good communication skills who can work alone and as a team. Three years experience in Human Service field is preferred. HS diploma or equivalency, CORI, valid driver's license & vehicle required. Accepting applications at 75 Litwin Lane, Chicopee, MA 01020. AAEEOE –Sunshine Village is a great place to work!

## NEWSPAPER SEEKS STAFF WRITER

The Country Journal is seeking applicants for a part-time staff writer. The position pays \$12 per hour, 25 hours per week. Journalism experience is preferable, but not required. Recent college graduates are encouraged to apply. Interested candidates please apply to Lisa Connell at [countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com).

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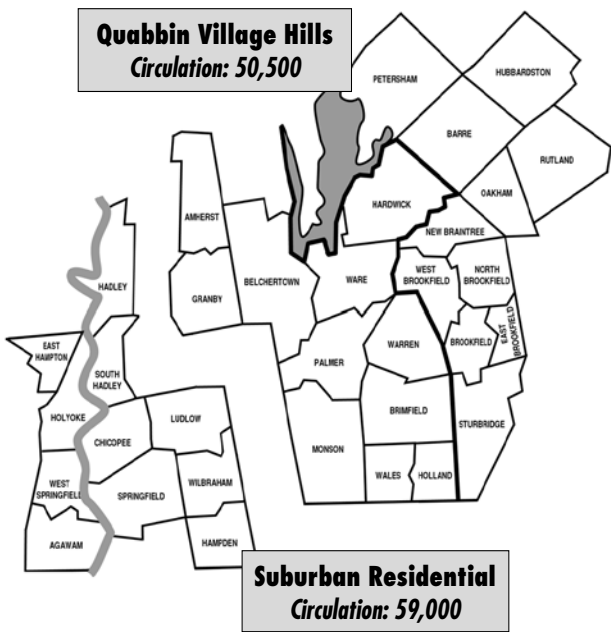


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## THE DEADLINE IS FRIDAY AT NOON

Send to Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069.  
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Or call **413-283-7084** to place your ad.



**Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$24.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for additional words. Add \$5 for a second ZONE.**

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## Help Wanted

**PRODUCTION SPECIALISTS-TEMPORARY NOW HIRING!** Temporary production specialists in Chicopee. Ideal candidate: ability to work Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Seeking positive employees who are self-directed. Tasks involve: stuffing envelopes, light packing and collating. HS diploma or equivalency/CORI check required. Accepting applications - 75 Litwin Lane, Chicopee. AA/EOE

**SMALL NON-PROFIT SEEKS** part time fundraiser. Knowledge of Microsoft Office necessary, experience with QuickBooks Non-Profit helpful. Send cover letter and resume to NHN, 30 Carew Street, South Hadley, MA 01075 or email [NHNfoodpantry.org](mailto:NHNfoodpantry.org)

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY FULL TIME**, Tues.- Sat. 9-5. Seasonal overtime. Forklift experience preferred. Good driving record. Lifting required. Excellent benefit package. Apply in person at: Olde Hadleigh Hearth, 119 Willimansett St., Rt. 33, South Hadley.

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## Real Estate



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413-967-6326  
800-486-2121  
West Brookfield:  
508-867-7064

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Jill Stogitis 413-477-8780  
Mary Hicks 508-612-4794  
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Joe Chenevert 508-331-9031  
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**AGAWAM, MAIN STREET,** Rooms for rent \$125/ wk everything included.. (413)335-2944.

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## PUBLIC AUCTION

CORNER OF BARDWELL & SOUTH WASHINGTON  
BELCHERTOWN, MA 01007

REAL ESTATE  
7 PRIME BUILDING LOTS  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12th at 10:00AM

Location: Corner of Bardwell Street and South Washington Street  
Belchertown, MA 01007

7 Building lots ranging in size from 40,040 sq. feet to 4.4 acres.

All of the lots have been surveyed, pinned and approved by Town Planning Board. All have been perced and are approved by the Board of Health!

4 of these lots are 40,040 sq. ft. with road frontage on South Washington. One is an estate lot with approx. 4.4 acres also on South Washington.

The other two lots are 2.2 and 3.4 acres +/- and they are on Bardwell Street

All lots are recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book of Plans 234, Page 61

Selling for the Estate of Sebastion E. Dudek Attorney Joseph Topor, Jr. local contact Tom Spellman (Executor) 413-896-9515

Terms on Real Estate: cash or good check w/ 10% down day of auction, balance at settlement on or before October 12th.

**Leaman Auctions Ltd.**  
**AY002063**

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J. Edward Leaman cell 610-662-8149  
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[AUCTIONZIP.COM](http://AUCTIONZIP.COM) AND USE ID#3721  
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[Leamanauctions.com](http://Leamanauctions.com)

## For Rent



**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**LUDLOW 2 BEDROOM** Modern Apartment All Appliances, hardwood floors, air condition, dishwasher, disposal, microwave.. Clean, private, extra storage, \$795.00 Includes hot water. Extra parking. No Pets (413)342-7009

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**MONSON 2 BR** apt. 1st fl. off-street parking, w/d hook-up, No pets. 1st, last, security deposit \$750/ mo (413)537-1825.

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### SOUTHWICK SUFFIELD NEWS

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(413) 786-7747  
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### THE WARE RIVER NEWS

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Ware, MA 01082  
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Fax: (413) 967-6009

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138 College Street, Suite 2  
So. Hadley, MA 01075  
(413) 536-5333  
Fax: (413) 536-5334

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Wilbraham, MA 01095  
(413) 682-0007  
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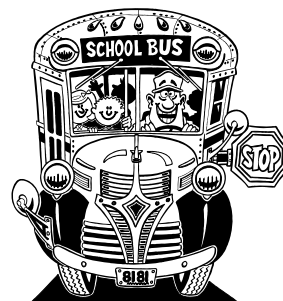
The deadline for all print classified ads in the Quabbin and Suburban Zones is Friday at noon for publication the following week. The deadline for the Hill Towns Zone is Monday at noon. All online ads will be published for 7 days including the corresponding print editions.

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## Clowns and crafts



A+ the Melha Shriners clown, also known as Andy Clough of Agawam, tries to talk 7-year-old Connor Martin of Southwick out of a taste of his snow cone.



Patches the Melha Shriners clown (Dave Mereschuk of Agawam) shows off his juggling skills.



From left, Nicholas Albrio, 5, of Feeding Hills, along with his 16-month old sister Emma and 7-year-old brother Jason, show off their works of art at Clowning Around for Shriners Hospital for Children, a day of crafts, food and fun Aug. 15 at Whalley Park in Southwick. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY LISA BRISSON

## Cultural Council seeks new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the ACC for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Mas-

sachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members.

The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.



# DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER SERVING OVERSEAS?

Send us their photo and we will publish it Veterans week, Nov. 9-13, 2015

Fill out the form below and send to:

Beth Baker  
Turley Publications  
24 Water St  
Palmer, MA 01069

**Deadline for submission is Sept 30 , 2015**

Name of Service Member \_\_\_\_\_

Hometown \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Deployment (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

You may also email your submission: [bbaker@turley.com](mailto:bbaker@turley.com)  
Please be sure to put "Veteran" in the subject line!



## The Dance Slipper

Owner & Artistic Director, Brenda Barna  
Certified to Teach by Dance Masters of America & Dance Educators of America

### Register Now

For Classes Beginning September 8th

Mail registration form with fee or  
Visit us at The Dance Slipper  
Starting August 18th. Tues.-Thurs., 5-8 pm



## SERPENTINE MODERN NATIONAL HIGH SCORE WINNERS

### ALL NEW Super Heroes Class

Age 2.5-6 Yrs • 6 Week Class Starting Sept 10th

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Tickets \$18  
Sunday, Sept. 20, 3pm



Also Birthday Parties  
can be held at Princess Tea  
at Discounted Rates

Victorian Lady Luncheon

Oct. 18, 3:30pm \$25  
Come See Candy Carle dress from corset to gown  
Fashion, Life & Etiquette of the Victorian Era discussed.

## Troop 77 fundraiser at EB's Monday

Boy Scout Troop 77 will hold a fundraiser at EB's Restaurant, 385 Walnut St. Ext., Agawam on Monday, Aug. 31. EB's sponsors a "Give Back Monday" fundraising program. Eat at EB's on Aug. 31 and 10 percent of all food sales, both dine-in and takeout, excluding alcohol, will be donated to Troop 77.

The scouts will use the money generated from the fundraiser to help support scouting activities, mainly camping. Troop 77 camps locally at Moses Scout Reservation in Russell and is planning two out-of-district camping trips this coming scout year. The troop will attend the Herkimer Diamond Mine Geology Merit Badge program as well as Winter Treks on the Vermont-Canada border. The scouts also plan other activities as needed to fulfill merit badge and advancement requirements.

Boy Scout Troop 77 is sponsored by St. John's Church in Agawam and is part of the Western Massachusetts Council, which serves over 6,600 young people and over 1,600 adult volunteers in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire counties.

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**

Let them know you saw their ad in the  
**Agawam Advertiser**

## Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com). Please include your first and last name.

\*\*\*

Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Nancy Toussaint were Paula Raiche, Lou Scherpa, Norma Turcotte, Sue Bongiovanni and Karen Daniels.



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- Seek additional sources of revenue to keep property taxes low and more fully meet the needs of the Town.



I would appreciate your vote for Agawam City Council on November 3rd.

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CORINNE WINGARD



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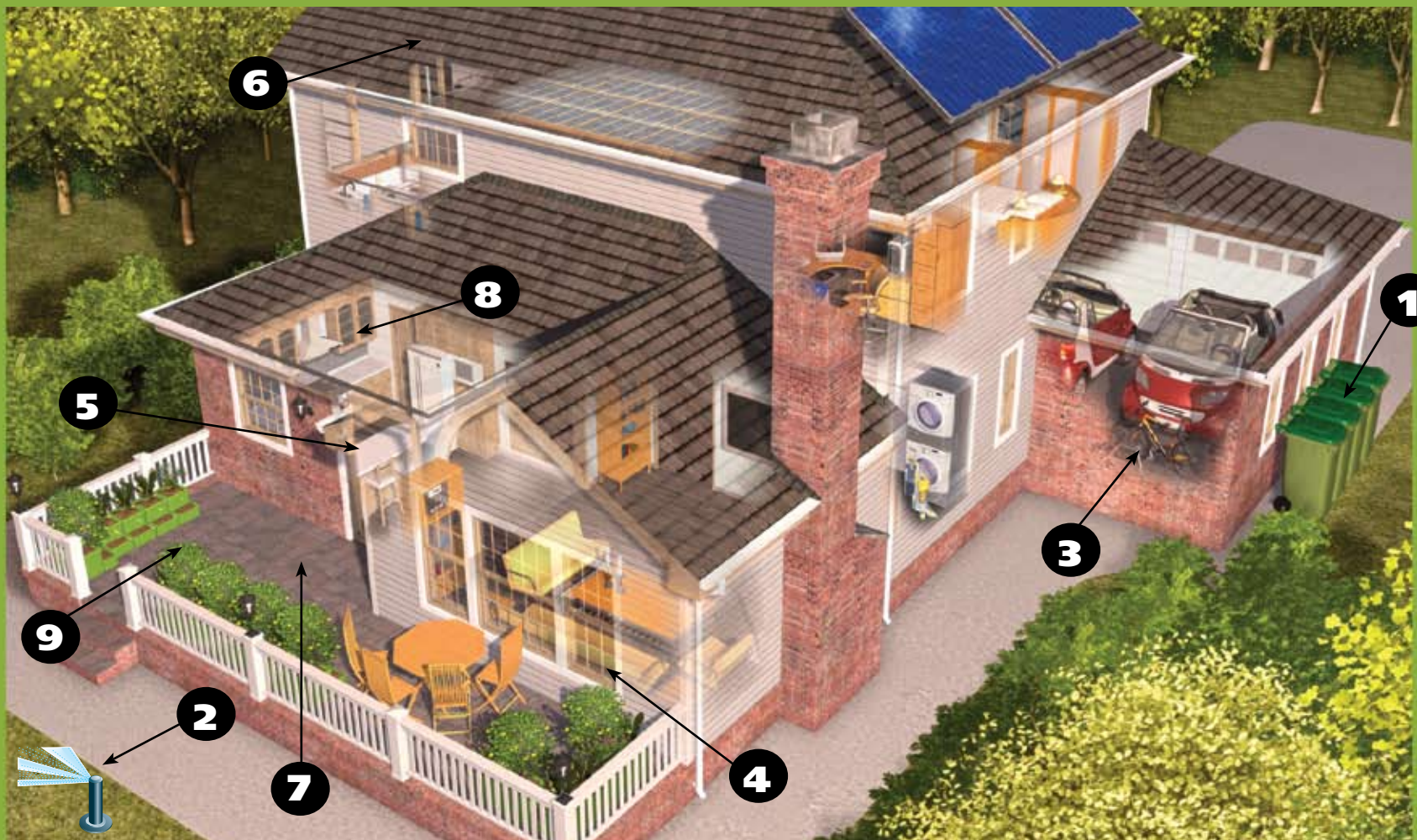
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